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NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

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INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

ARAB ECONOMIC COOPERATION DISCUSSED

Jiddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 2-3 Oct 80 p 19

[Article by Khalid 'Aqil: "Arab Union of Chambers of Commerce Discusses Arab Economic Strategy"]

[Text] Shaykh Isma'il Abu Daud, head of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Jiddah, has returned from Tunis after heading the Saudi delegation to the meeting of the 51st session of the council of the General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for the Arab Countries, which was held recently in Tunis.

Shaykh Isma'il Abu Daud told AL-MADINAH that this session had discussed various aspects of Arab economic cooperation and its requirements in the coming stage, in the hope that the next Arab Economic Summit Conference will be basically sympathetic to supporting and guiding joint economic activity resting on the bases of serving pan-Arab economic development. Emphasis was also placed on giving joint economic activity special priority by describing it as a basic complement to development.

Shaykh Abu Daud added that the general secretariat of the council will submit a memorandum to the next economic summit conference including the union's point of view concerning the strategy of joint Arab economic activity. The Arab chambers of commerce will also ask that profit-making projects be submitted which the Arab Company for Arab Investments (SHA'A) could consider establishing and developing to spread the goals and activities of this company to Arab investors. The council also urged support for tourism cooperation among Arab countries so that this sector may participate in strengthening the bonds of relations among Arab citizens. This sector would participate within the framework of Arab economic development plans by setting up the basic structure necessary for tourism and facilitating travel arrangements. During this meeting the membership of the Committee on Affairs of Joint Arab-Foreign Chambers of Commerce was extended. This committee is composed of Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Jordan, Kuwait, Syria, Iraq and Morocco.

The role of the Union of Arab Chambers in the joint chambers was also discussed. The council approved the memorandum prepared by the secretary-general of the Union of Arab Chambers concerning joint Arab chambers and the role of the Union of Chambers of Commerce in them: reaffirming the importance of the chambers in protecting Arab economic interests abroad, and also the necessity of incorporating the fields approved by the union into the basic statutes of the joint chambers in Western Europe to put them on the correct path.

Shaykh Isma'il Abu Daud went on to say that this meeting approved the cooperation agreement between the Union of Arab Chambers and the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry. A meeting will be set up in the near future between the Arabs and the Koreans. The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the PDRY was nominated for membership on the board of directors of the French-Arab Chamber of Commerce. The Council received information about the French-Arab Chamber of Commerce's Council on Alternate Energy Sources, which will be held in Tunis in October, and also the celebration which will mark the 10th anniversary of the founding of the joint French-Arab Chamber of Commerce. The council authorized the secretary-general of the union to contact the appropriate authorities in Kenya to set a date for a visit by a delegation from the Arab Chamber of Commerce, provided that during this visit contacts would also be made to organize an economic conference for representatives of the Arab and African private sector in Kenya during 1981. Unified steps to create an Arab-Canadian Chamber of Commerce were also discussed.

Shaykh Isma'il Abu Daud concluded by saying that the council had agreed to hold its 32nd session in a state of the region during March 1981. The main topic will be protecting Arab wealth abroad and preserving Arab resources. The next meeting also will deal with the role of the oil sector in economic integration.

7587

CSO: 4802

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON UNIFIED INFORMATION

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 3 Oct 80 p 10

[Interview with Magid Sharar, director of the Unified Information Department of the PLO, by Carlos Cardoso, of AIM, who is currently covering events in the Middle East; date and place of interview not specified]

[Text] Question: What is the role of the Department of Unified Information in the PLO?

Answer: The department was established in 1972, following the opening of the Al Fatah news bureau in Jordan. It was an attempt to bring together all the official news organs of the other Palestinian organizations in one information center, which was given the name "Unified Information."

We discovered, however, that it was not easy to unify information without first unifying the military forces and other sectors of the different organizations. Therefore, the major effort is still exerted by Al Fatah. The other organizations still maintain their information offices, their magazines and other activities, but we insist on preserving a unified information service, looking to unify Palestinian information activities in the future.

Question: How has the service progressed over the years?

Answer: When we began, there were 38 of us, and now there are over 300 in Beirut, Damascus and other capitals.

We have the PALESTINE REVOLUTION, as a daily and a weekly. Another section is Wafa, the Palestine news agency, which regularly broadcasts three times a day, in Arab and in English. It also has correspondents in various capitals of the Arab world and the socialist countries.

The third section is that of radiophonic services, which broadcast to the occupied territories. Our main station is in Lebanon, but we have other stations in Democratic Yemen and Algeria. Before the Camp David accord we also had a station in Cairo.

The fourth section is foreign news, which specializes in relations with foreign journalists and publishes a monthly magazine, PALESTINE REVOLUTION, in English and French.

The fifth section, one of the earliest, is that of film and photography. It has produced 32 films, documentaries and newsreels. The section portrays the revolutionary activities since 1968, and at present we have over 400,000 photographs.

Another section is that of Mass Information, specializing in communication between populations inside and outside the camps. This section makes local broadcasts to the camps, and so it is in daily contact with the masses.

As I said earlier, there are now over 300 of us. Most of our staff has learned by doing. We are soldiers and we have followed the life of the guerrillas for the last 10 years.

We have lost many cadres. For example, we lost Hani Jawhalia, Omar and Muha, who were three of our best cameramen, and also Talal Rameh, who was an editor of the magazine PALESTINE REVOLUTION.

During this period, we have sent over 140 cadres to other countries, especially socialist countries, for training in journalistic work, and we receive real support from our friends, particularly in the Film Section. Most of our film staff was trained in the GDR.

Question: Does the fact that every PLO organization has its own information office prejudice the existence of a common program?

Answer: All the member organizations of the PLO are represented in our National Council, and most of them are represented on the Executive Committee, the directing body of the PLO. There are many ideologies among the Palestinians, however. Some groups are considered Marxist-Leninist. The Al Fatah is a nationalist movement. So it is logical that each organization would want its own news agency reflecting its politics and ideology.

Still, this does not mean that each Palestinian group has its own constitution and respective political program. No. There is only one constitution and one political program determined by the National Council. I think we will continue to have several magazines, but this is not to say that the Palestinians do not have a unified policy. On the other hand, every organization has the right to speak to its members. This reflects the internal democracy within the PLO. We have always taken care to resolve our problems democratically. On any issue, each organization has the right to express its own position, to uphold its point of view, but in the end we have to come to an agreement. We stress the need to maintain democratic relations in all the meetings of the National Council because we consider them a basis for unity.

In recent years, we have faced difficult and complex problems. We have not forgotten that in 1978 we ignored democratic dialog, and many confrontations erupted between Palestinian organizations. About 40 individuals died in these incidents. After 3 months, all the people were convinced of the need to return to democratic dialog. It was an important lesson for us, and the masses brought great pressure on all the organizations to return to democratic dialog during that period.

Question: How do you view the Israeli propaganda machine?

Answer: The Zionist propaganda has been very effective, particularly at the international level. When we began the armed struggle, the Zionist propaganda succeeded for many years in having it believed that the Palestinians were terrorists. Through our political and diplomatic efforts, however, we are beginning to change public opinion. We are working on communication at three levels.

First, we are working to respond to the issues facing the masses in the occupied territories, so they can confront the scheming imperialist propaganda and engage in the resistance. This way we can convince them that the enemy is not so strong, that they can break away. At this time, we can say that all the Palestinians support the PLO and consider it the directing force of the Palestinian people.

Second is our work at the Arab level. The Palestinian cause is very strong, and the struggle over the past 70 years have been supported by the Arab masses. We have always had soldiers from various Arab countries in our ranks. But we know we must maintain a strong propaganda machine to counter the propaganda of the reactionary Arab regimes and the imperialists, who try to spread the idea that the problems in the Middle East are caused by the Palestinians. Hence, we explain the facts to the Arab masses. The major enemies are the United States of America and Israel, its base in the Middle East. We have been very successful, especially after the victory of the Iranian revolution. We have enabled our masses to absorb this truth. The principal target is American imperialism.

In the last Fatah congress, we considered the United States to be the leader of all the forces against freedom, and we convinced the Arab masses that Israel is not only a threat to the Palestinians but to the Arab people, because its primary task is to protect American interests and enable the imperialists to continue to rob the Arab world of its wealth. Moreover, we teach our people to distinguish between friend and foe. Our people are well convinced that the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, as well as the democratic and progressive forces throughout the world, are our real friends in the struggle.

The third aspect of our activity pertains to our friends. We make a daily effort to inform friendly countries regarding our struggle. This means more support for and greater understanding of our cause. Finally, we are countering strong imperialist and Zionist propaganda in West Europe, the United States and countries governed by fascist regimes. We are making a real effort to be effective on this front.

Question: You said that in the last Fatah congress the United States we classified as the principal enemy...

Answer: We are convinced that the United States will not change its policy with respect to the Arabs and Palestinians, and even feels that its interests in the area are in real danger. The Americans will feel that Israel ultimately cannot protect their interests. In other words, our struggle must be against the United States. We have been very successful in convincing most of the Arab masses that those who talk about fighting Israel and maintain good relations with the United States are also on Israel's side. Israel is a U.S. base. This is the answer to all the reactionary Arab regimes that would distinguish between the two.

Question: There is currently a good deal of talk about relations between the PLO and Iraq...

Answer: We have had difficult and complicated relations with Iraq. When the Arabs held the Baghdad summit meeting, we stayed put and so did Iraq. We have our policy and they have theirs. We do not agree with all the details of their policy, for instance, with respect to relations between Iran and Iraq. We are trying to help eliminate the problems between Iraq and Iran. Again, regarding relations with the Soviet Union, we have strategic relations with the Soviet Union and so does Iraq. We are careful to resolve our problems on the basis of our political program and not the programs of others. In the end, our struggle against the enemy is always hard, but we are well supported by our friends. There is the case of Mozambique. The Mozambican party, government and people support our struggle. President Samora Machel is a great friend of the Palestinian people. We know that he always discusses the Palestinian cause wherever he goes. We also know that Mozambique is very influential in Africa. This means more support for the Palestinian struggle. Although the struggle is hard, we will fight to the final victory.

(Magid Sharar, chief of information of Al Fatah, is also a member of the Al Fatah Central Committee, the National Council of the PLO and the Palestine Congress. While he was living in occupied territory he was known as one of the most famous writers of tales.)

6362

CSO: 4401

SAUDI PRINCE DELIVERS 'SCATHING ATTACK' ON COMMUNISM

Jiddah ARAB NEWS in English 16 Nov 80 p 2

[Text]

TAIPEI, Nov. 15 (SFA) — Deputy Minister of Interior Prince Ahmad Friday launched a scathing attack against world communism.

At a dinner banquet given in his honor by the Saudi Arabian charge d'affaires in Taipei, Prince Ahmad thanked the Chinese for their warm welcome and hospitality and again lashed out at communism. He said it was a blessing for China to enjoy such a stable state of security despite the great threat it is facing from world communism, particularly from Communist China.

Nationalist China is a vivid example of progress, unlike Communist China which is crushed under the yoke of the Communist regime, he added.

Prince Ahmad said that communism is a destructive force and is spreading its venom and corruption around the world. He added that the Middle East and several other countries in various places have suffered a great deal and continue to suffer from Communist interference in their destiny and affairs. This also provides the reason why these countries are exposed to backwardness and weakness, while their principles and values are threatened. But he said, "Our Islamic faith is an impregnable fortress against the destructive Marxist ideology in our Arab and Muslim society, and this is why this society will always remain away from Communist influence."

The minister urged the countries of "the free and developed world" to combine their efforts to repel "world Communist aggression" and save "those who fell in to its net."

Prince Ahmad said Saudi Arabians believe that man's mission in this world is to do good for his fellow human being, and foremost among duties toward human rights should be to ward off the Red threat whose characteristics are bloodshed and persecution.

He again thanked the Chinese president for having decorated him with China's highest honor. He hailed the strong friendship binding the two countries, which still is developing and flourishing.

Later in the evening, a meeting was held between the Saudi Arabian and Chinese delegations led respectively by Prince Ahmad and China's National Security Chief, Gen. Aziz Wang. Discussions dealt with various aspects of security cooperation.

In addition, Prince Ahmad visited Taiwan's General Garrison and was briefed on its role by its commander Gen. Wang. He then prayed at Taipei's mosque. He also had talks at the mosque with Sheikh Dawood Chio, president of the Islamic Society of Nationalist China.

Sheikh Dawood briefed Prince Ahmad about the activities of his society in spreading Islam in China and providing education for Muslim children. He thanked the people and government of Saudi Arabia for assisting the society. Sheikh Dawood asked Prince Ahmad to convey his greetings and best wishes to King Khaled and Crown Prince Fahd for their continuous assistance to Muslims everywhere.

Islam was introduced to China one thousand years ago, but after the Communist uprising mosques and Islamic societies were closed, Dawood explained. This turn of events caused Muslims to flee the continent and seek refuge with their society in Taiwan. According to the People's China, there were over 50 million Muslims in the past. However, new statistics by the same government show that the number of Muslims now does not exceed ten million, he added.

Thousands of mosques have been closed in Communist China, but Muslims will triumph

at the end. They now shoulder the great responsibility of propagating Islam, Dawood said.

In his reply speech, Prince Ahmad said that by extending help to Muslims in China and everywhere else, the King of Saudi Arabia, who is the servant of the two Harams, is only fulfilling his duty. He told the members of the society, "I convey to you the greetings of your Muslim brothers in Saudi Arabia. Your brothers in the Kingdom pray so that God may deliver those who are suffering from persecution under the tyrant Communist rule, grant them victory and restore their dignity by defeating their enemies."

He reaffirmed that no matter how despotic "the enemies of God" become and no matter how great they think they are, only those who fear God will emerge victorious. "But God has ordered us to be patient and perseverant and remember Him with awe in whatever we do."

Therefore, your (the Muslims of Taiwan) steadfastness in defending what is right will

ultimately yield their fruits to Islam and the Muslims of China," Ahmad said.

He thanked the government of The Republic of China for enabling Muslims to practice Islam in full liberty. This is a gesture appreciated by Muslims in all parts of the Islamic world, and in Saudi Arabia, in particular, he said. And he repeated that "King Khalid and your Muslim brothers in Saudi Arabia are keen on assisting and supporting you, so that you may continue to fulfill your mission which consists in raising high the banner of God and propagating the eternal message of Islam." Prince Ahmad then gave \$30,000 to the society to help it in its mission.

Later in the day, Prince Ahmad visited the Criminal Investigation Bureau in Taipei and was briefed by officials on the bureau's functions and the part it plays in combating crime. He inspected the Police Academy where he was received by its commander and senior staff officers. The prince also attended a display of police investigation techniques.

KARMAL WARNS DISSIDENTS WITHIN PDP

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 21 Nov 80 pp 1, 10

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 20--Afghan President Babrak Karmal has issued a strong warning to dissidents within Afghanistan's ruling People's Democratic party (PDP) and threatened them with expulsion from the party, diplomatic sources said here yesterday.

In a speech to party activists in Kabul after he returned from his first official visit to the Soviet Union, the Afghan leader said those not working for the good of the party would be expelled "even if they had been heroes in the past."

The sources said observers in Kabul saw this as a possible forerunner to the expulsion of past and present military commanders belonging to the party's Khalq (Masses) factions hostile to President Karmal and the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The Afghan leader, who returned to Kabul on Nov. 5, heads the rival Parcham (Flag) faction.

In his Nov. 13 speech which was later broadcast by Kabul Radio, President Karmal called for party discipline and "unity in thought, conscience, honour, words and deeds."

Main Target

The sources said Interior Minister Mohammad Gulabzoi, a leader of the Khalq faction, was regarded as the main target of the attack against party dissidents.

According to earlier diplomatic reports, members of the Khalq faction were said in Kabul to have obtained arms from the Interior Ministers and police stores and set up underground units.

In the broadcast monitored here this week, President Karmal spoke of eternal friendship and solidarity with the Soviet Communist Party.

He said some party officials were abusing their position and warned dissidents that factionalism would never be tolerated.

"Compromise with this kind of situation is impossible," he said.

Military Front

On the military front, the sources said air activity over Kabul was high in the past week and military convoys continued to rumble through the streets at night.

They said a convoy was seen returning from the Chazni area south of Kabul last week with damaged tanks on 15 transporters. The sources said five Afghan and two Russians were killed on the night of November 14-15 when Soviet soldiers forcibly entered a house in the Kharate Parwan district of Kabul. Some reports said the soldiers were looking for girls but other reports said they only tried to take away valuable objects.

Police instructed Afghan eyewitnesses to say that anti-Government rebels were responsible, according to the sources.--Reuter.

Visits Wakhan District

Reuter adds:

Kabul Radio said yesterday that Afghan President Babrak Karmal had visited the Wakhan district of Afghanistan's northeastern province of Badakhashan which borders the Soviet Union.

There have been Press reports that the Soviet Union is in the process of annexing the largely-uninhabited 300 square km (115 sq mile) Wakhan corridor, which points towards China in the east between Pakistan and the Soviet Union.

It did not give a date for the visit by the Afghan leader who returned to Kabul on Nov. 5 after a 20-day visit to the Soviet Union.

CSO: 4920

AFGHANISTAN

SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVES IN KABUL

Karachi DAWN in English 14 Nov 80 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 13--A high-powered Soviet delegation arrived in the Afghan capital yesterday to take part in the 21st frontier sessions of the two countries, Radio Kabul said. The delegation includes Soviet cartographers.

Meanwhile, well-informed Afghan dissident sources here said that the delegation might be refixing the boundaries between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. There were reports that the Soviet Union was keen to bring certain areas, bordering China within its boundary for the strategic importance of the area.

The delegation was met at the airport by Bahpole Bahrose, President-General of the Afghan Cartographic Department, the radio said in its Pushtu news bulletin monitored here.

A number of high ranking Afghan military officials were also present.

Fighting

According to a report from Kandhar Mujahideen destroyed one tank near Sdakh wa gas station on November 10.

Russian planes bombed the new and old sections of the Kandhar city which caused civilian casualties.

A report from Takhar province said that Mujahideen destroyed one tank and 28 trucks in a day-long fighting with Russian troops.

They also captured some food supplies in another incident in which six Russian soldiers were killed.

According to another report Mujahideen destroyed two tanks by mines in Yendara of Takhar province.--APP/PPI

CSO: 4920

POSSIBILITY OF NEW SOVIET OFFENSIVE VIEWED

Karachi DAWN in English 21 Nov 80 p 4

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Nov 20: Soviet helicopter activity has been stepped up around Kabul in what could amount to a new offensive against the guerrillas in Afghanistan, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

They said that on Nov 15 the Kabul Defence Ministry announced joint ground and air manoeuvres in Kabul, Parwan, Ghazni and Nangarhar provinces.

Downs of Soviet helicopter gunships took to the air from Kabul and the activity was still continuing yesterday, alongside high-flying Soviet jet fighters and bombers, the sources said.

Joint Soviet-Afghan military contingents were reported conducting searches of villages for guerrillas, and in Wardak province, west of Kabul, Soviet forces shelled a suspected guerrilla encampment, the sources said.

Soviet forces had also tried for the fourth time to invade the Panjshir Valley north-east of Kabul and were met with the usual stiff resistance by guerrillas in four days of fighting, the sources said.

Villages near Kandahar in southern Afghanistan were reported to have been bombed by Soviet helicopters and jets, they said.

Kabul residents were wakened during the night of Nov 16-17 by loud explosions from a battle that lasted seven hours in Moshkel village on the outskirts of the capital.

Office workers travelling into Kabul the next day said they saw about a dozen bodies lying near a wall in the village which was surrounded by troops, the sources said.

The guerrillas were reported to have attacked a police station at Kart-Nar near the village the same night and to have lost 80 men in the encounter though claiming the same number of dead among Afghan soldiers who fought them.

Another group of guerrillas tried to blow up a nearby thermal power station but were dispersed and chased away, the sources said.

The sources confirmed earlier diplomatic reports that a family of Afghans and two Soviet soldiers were killed last week when Russian troops forcibly entered a house in Kabul.

They said the home was that of a judicial official of the Afghan Government Interior Ministry who had just returned from leading a group of Muslim pilgrims to Mecca.

A group of Soviet soldiers entered the house and killed the

official, his wife, mother and three daughters. The official's son was reported to have evaded the soldiers by hiding under a quilt in the bathroom, the sources said.

Some reports said the Russians were looking for girls, but other reports said they tried to take away valuable objects.

The sources said Soviet officers who were called to the scene by a police patrol shot and killed two of the surrounding Soviet soldiers on the spot.

Police had been told by the authorities to blame the incident on the guerrillas, the sources said.

Kabul bus drivers refused to drive to the north on Nov 19 until guaranteed safe passage after a Soviet patrol was reported to have killed a bus driver and three passengers, the sources said.

At Juhai Serah on the same highway on Nov 14, a traveller reported seeing a burnt-out truck and the bodies of more than a dozen Afghan youths wearing the scarf of the Afghan Young Pioneers, a youth wing of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA).

The sources quoted the traveller as saying the youths had been attacked by guerrillas who escaped with a number of sub-machine-guns.

One Million Killed

According to eminent Afghan intellectual and recent defector from the Kabul regime of Mr Karnal, about one million Afghans have been killed in Afghanistan since the Soviet invasion last December and an equal number of them have fled their country.

"The Russians are brutally killing the Afghan people," he said in interview with the "Voice of America" in New York.

Before fleeing from Afghanistan Mr Paktiawal was a high-ranking official of the Ministry of Education. He was the deputy leader of the Afghan delegation to the UNESCO conference held in Belgrade, where he denounced the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and defected to West Germany.

Mr Paktiawal told "VOA" that the Soviet Union wanted to dominate on every walk of life in Afghanistan. He added: "The Soviet Union has full control over all the Afghan mass media and for the achievement of its objectives and interests, it has completely changed the syllabus of the schools."

As he put it, the Soviet Union was violating "our human rights, taking advantage of our natural resources and is thrusting its system of government on our people."

He said that in his opinion the UNESCO conference was the best place where the world could be informed of these facts.

Mr Paktiawal said the Soviet soldiers were killing the people without any discrimination. "The Soviet Union doesn't care for anything. It is destroying the whole valleys and villages, don't care for even small children, ladies and for elder people."

He added that the Soviet Union was destroying everything. In spite of all this, the people of Afghanistan were fighting with the old type of guns and even with spades, and they would resist and fight until the last Soviet soldier remained in Afghanistan. They would continue to resist to bring an end to the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

Mr Paktiawal said that some of the Afghan cities were under the control of the Russians while the rest of the country was controlled by the resistance forces. The Afghan officials could not travel from one city to the other by road, and in any case they had to travel by air.

He confirmed the reports that the Soviet soldiers belonging to Central Asian areas had fled and joined the Afghan Muslim rebels. He added: "When the Soviet Union realised that the Soviet Muslim soldiers had sympathy with resisting Afghans, they called them back from Afghanistan."--Reuter/APP

CSO: 4920

MANY SOVIET OFFICIALS KILLED BY MUJAHIDEEN

Karachi DAWN in English 23 Nov 80 pp 1, 8

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Nov 23: Freedom fighters and opponents of the Moscow-installed Afghan regime have murdered several Soviet and Afghan officials in Kabul in recent weeks, Afghan and diplomatic sources said in Delhi today.

Unknown assailants killed the Principal of a junior high school, and assassinated an Afghan official outside the Ministry of Education this week, diplomats said.

Officials in Kabul did not know whether the assassins of the two men, both members of President Babrak Karmal's Parcham or flag faction of the ruling Marxist People's Party, were members of the opposing Khalb, or peoples faction or urban guerrillas. There were no further details of the killings.

Reports of cooperation between Khalbis, who oppose Karmal on several issues, including the continuing presence of 85,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan, and insurgents engaged in a two-year-old anti-Soviet guerrilla war have increased, diplomats said.

Unidentified guerrillas burst down Wazir Akbar Khan high school in Karte Parwan about three weeks ago, Afghan sources who travelled recently from Kabul, said.

Student activists circulated secret night letters to other students at the high school urging them to go on strike around the same time, they said.

Guerrillas also set fire to the 20,000 square-foot Kabul Customs House in the north-eastern industrial area of the capital last week, they reported. Officials rushed fire-fighting equipment to the Government building and roped off the area. The extent of damage was not known.

Guerrillas shot down an official of Kabul province identified as Mohammad Humza and burned his jeep in Qala Murad Bag, about 25 miles from the capital this week, the Afghan sources

reported.

Guerrillas also attacked armed Parchamite civil patrolmen the night of Nov 18 in Dasht-e-Baabi, just west of Kabul, killing six men, and escaped with their Kalashnikov rifles, diplomats said.

Mujahideen killed 6 officers, 17 non-commissioned officers and 20 defence personnel and destroyed 2 tanks near Lashkargah in Helmand province.

According to latest reports in Parwan province, Mujahideen offered stiff resistance to the Soviet-Afghan joint operation in Yurchi area near Bagram and killed 3 officers and wounded 14 officers and sepoy on Wednesday night.

Mujahideen who attacked the provincial headquarters of Charikar last week, killed and wounded 11 sepoy and released all the prisoners from the provincial jail.

Mujahideen also ambushed a convoy on the main highway and destroyed 6 vehicles.

In Farah province, Mujahideen fired upon Soviet advisers in Dilaram killing 4 advisers on the spot.

PRESIDIUM

The Presidium of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan today approved a report by Afghan President Babrak Karmal on his "historic" 21-day visit to the Soviet Union, Kabul radio reported.

The report was endorsed "wholeheartedly", and was called a "historic step" which would have "international and internal repercussions beneficial to the Afghan people", the state-owned radio said in its Pushto language news bulletin monitored here.

The seven-member Presidium also approved a speech delivered by Mr Karmal at the party meeting after his return from the Soviet Union on November 8, the radio said.—PFI/UTL AFP

KARMAL REGIME POSTPONES OFFENSIVE AGAINST FREEDOM-FIGHTERS

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 17 Nov 80 p 3

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Nov. 14: The Soviet-backed Afghan government has postponed any major offensive against Afghan freedom-fighters until next March and instead will use the time for a domestic reorganization programme on three fronts—party, military and administration, area experts close to the Indian Foreign Ministry said.

The decision climaxed a series of developments that followed the return of Afghan President Babrak Karmal to Kabul on Nov 5 after a 31-day 'friendship visit' to the Soviet Union, the experts said quoting diplomatic reports from the Afghan capital.

The decisions were endorsed at the fourth plenum of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) which met in the Afghan capital last Tuesday.

The domestic reorganization programme would be aimed at eliminating counter-revolutionary infiltrators and to further strengthen the bonds of friendship and military cooperation between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, the experts said.

Afghan military officers would be sent to the Soviet Union in greater number for advanced training in combat tactics.

Meanwhile, Afghan army units would undertake manoeuvres in some of the Afghan provinces to test and check the interactions of different Afghan army units, the experts said quoting reports.

The emphasis at the fourth plenary session, which was attended by cabinet ministers, deputy ministers, members of the revolutionary council and the central committee of the party, was laid on reorganization of the party, political indoctrination and induction of young Afghans into the party and the army.

cleaning up the administration by replacing officials of suspect loyalty by dedicated party men and further centralising power in the Prime Minister and the President, both posts now being held by Karmal.

During the session, some members called for party unity, but interestingly, Karmal abstained from making any reference to the unity issue, the sources said.

The session reiterated its earlier stand that the limited contingent of Soviet troops would continue to stay in Afghanistan, until all so-called foreign aggressors against the country ceased.

Detailed references were made by Karmal and other participants to the outside interference in Afghan affairs.

On the issue of a political solution, the session unanimously resolved that the May 14 peace proposal should be the basis for any negotiations.

The sources here could not give further details on military strategy against the freedom-fighters discussed at the plenum.

However, well informed Afghan dissident sources in the Indian capital insist that during the fourth plenary session some important Soviet-Afghan agreements have been formalised. However, there was no confirmation either from diplomatic sources or the Indian Foreign Ministry.

The third plenum which was held in the Afghan capital on July 23 had taken a series of important military decisions.

The 652,000 square kms (252,000 square miles) Afghanistan was divided into seven military zones for operations against the freedom-fighters decision to strengthen security forces, raising of volunteer force and defence committees were also taken.—AFP.

MUJAHIDEEN FREE 58 WOMEN PRISONERS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 18 Nov 80 p 8

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Nov. 17: Afghan insurgents raided a women's prison north of Kabul last week, released all 58 inmates and killed several guards accused of supplying the convicts to entertain Soviet troops, a report from Afghanistan said yesterday.

Other guards helped in the release of the women last Monday from the prison at Charikar, the capital of Parwan Province, 65 kilometres north of the capital, said a source in Kabul who in the past has been accurate.

A protest strike against the slaying of five bus drivers by Russian soldiers has halted all bus service on the main north-south highway from Kabul through the Salang Pass Tunnel to the Soviet border, the report from Afghanistan continued.

It said the drivers were killed last Nov. 8 in a dispute over Russian demands to supply them hashish at a bus stop at Kanjan, 150 kilometres north of Kabul near the north portal of the tunnel.

Guerillas in Paktia Province continued to block a long caravan of trucks loaded with firewood for

Kabul, now feeling the first blows of winter, the report said. Not a single firewood truck has moved to the capital from Paktia since Nov. 8 despite efforts by Afghan and Soviet troops to clear the road, it added.

The latest Kabul report said firewood was selling there for as much as 150 Afghanis (3.75 dollars) for seven kilograms (15.4 pounds), nearly 10 times normal price.

Hizbi-Islami - Afghanistan reports from Kandoot Province that the Mujahideen attacked the project of water supply in Khanabad District, as a result two Parchamis watchmen at the project, were killed, one tank installed in front of the project for safety was destroyed.

The Press release of the Hizbi Islami further said the same day one high-ranking official of Karmel Regime was captured alive. He was executed by the Mujahideen's summary Islamic court.

Reports from Logar province say the Mujahideen captured and executed 15 opium and pro-Russian elements. -APA/PTI

AFGHANISTAN

MUJAHIDEEN AMBUSH SOVIET CONVOYS

In Logar Province

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 13 Nov 80 p 8

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 12--Guerillas fought three battles with combined Soviet and Afghan forces in Logar province, south of Kabul last week, diplomatic sources said here today.

They said that on Nov. 5 a unit of Afghan provincial militia moved into Logar to attack a suspected guerilla camp, but was repulsed by superior guerilla forces.

Soviet helicopter-gunships were called in and these scattered the guerillas, the sources said.

But the following day the guerillas ambushed a Soviet reinforcement convoy and using anti-tank weapons and Molotov cocktails claimed to have destroyed 95 vehicles, the sources said. They added that the guerilla claim was probably exaggerated.

Other reports said the guerillas were successful largely because 600 Afghan militia men defected to them with their weapons during the first battle.

Soviet Copter Downed

The sources said that in a separate encounter near Zeididad in Logar province on Nov. 6, the guerillas, according to an unconfirmed report, managed to shoot down a Soviet helicopter with a ground-to-air rocket.

The weapon was probably a Soviet surface-to-air rocket brought to the guerillas by defecting Afghan troops, the sources said.

Heightened level of Soviet helicopter activity in and out of Kabul continued and on most nights long convoys, including tracked vehicles, could be heard passing through the capital, the sources said.

Ambushes

Apart from the battles in Logar, there were also consistent reports of successful guerilla ambushes in Paktia province over the past two weeks, the sources said.

Soviet and Afghan forces were said to have sustained losses in the ambushes and the guerillas to have captured arms, ammunition and food supplies.--Reuter

Afghan Troops Killed

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 15 Nov 80 p 3

[Text] Quetta, Nov. 14--The freedom fighters claimed to have killed three soldiers, captured four army officers of Afghan army and destroyed an armoured car during a fight in the area of Spin Baldu (Kandahar province).

According to a Press release issued here today by the Hizb-i-Islam, Afghanistan (Yunis Khali's group), the Mujahideen ambushed a convoy and gunned down two officers besides destroying a tank and a weapon carrier in the area of Arkhandad (Kandahar province).

Moreover the Mujahideen raided a hospital in Talkan city, the headquarters of Takhar province and injured surgeon in charge.

A tank was blown out on the Jalalabad-Talkan road in the area of Nangurhar province during an attack on a convoy. This attack was conducted by Mujahideen commander Awal Khan.

According to another P. .s release issued by the Harkat-e-Inqilab Islami-i-Afghanistan, the freedom fighters during a grim fighting in the area of Qila Musa, killed 80 troops of the Russian backed Afghan army.

A Mujahid lost his life there. Besides, the freedom fighters destroyed three tanks in the area of Roshaink where the Afghan army had attacked the Mujahideen with its full vigour.--PPI

CSO: 4920

REBEL RESISTANCE TO GOVERNMENT SEEN WANING

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 11 Nov 80 p 9

[Article by Fred Halliday]

[Text]

NOOR Ahmad Noor, the second secretary of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, and other government officials describe the period since last December as "the new phase" of the Afghan revolution, one in which they are trying to reverse the "mistaken" policies of the previous President, Hafizullah Amin. This means among other things, playing down the more outspokenly revolutionary claims.

Land reform has been put in abeyance, the programme of forced education for rural women has been stopped, and the red flag introduced by Amin has been replaced by a version of the pre-revolutionary banner. Three non-party ministers have been appointed and, according to some sources, there has been an end to policies of torture and arbitrary education pursued under Amin.

The greatest problem the Afghan Government faces is the continuing disagreement between the Khalq and Parcham factions of the ruling party. Officially, the try and to execute 17 former Amin associates implicated in his reign of terror.

But the Khalqis remain a powerful force in the party. While disclaiming Amin, they remain loyal to the memory of the late

President Taraki and criticise the Parchamis for excessive reliance on the Russians. They support the Soviet role in removing Amin last December, but believe that it would have been better if the Russians had then quickly withdrawn again.

Signs of continued Khalqi influence can be seen throughout government-controlled areas; a Khalqi slogan even adorns the walls of Alexander the Great's former residence in Herat. Two factions have reunited, but the now-dominant Parchamis blame the Khalqis for many of Afghanistan's problems and insist that it was "popular anger" which led them to topple in Herat.

Several prominent Khalqis remain in government posts and they probably remain dominant in the armed forces. The Parchamis insist that it was the brutally enforced reforms of the Khalqis that turned the population against the revolution, and one official told me that, in his subprovince of 4,500 people in central Afghanistan, 36 peasants who owned a bit more land than the others had been taken away and summarily shot on Amin's orders. Undoubtedly, Amin was partly responsible for dissipating the goodwill which Afghan revolutionaries enjoyed in the first months after they came to power.

According to Noor Ahmad Noor, the key to solving the crisis in

Afghanistan and to preparing the ground for a withdrawal of Soviet troops is to be found in direct talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Noor insists that the Soviet forces will remain in Afghanistan for as long as the rebels receive external aid.

His remarks support those of many other officials who met during a week's visit to Afghanistan. Yet the official view is also that rebel activity has fallen off considerably since June and July, and that the rebel forces have now broken up into groups of one or two dozen men who are avoiding direct clashes with Afghan or Soviet forces. Recent visitors to the lower Kunduz Valley, once a centre of rebel activity, report that life there has returned to normal. In such regions as Khost and Paktia local tribal militias loyal to the Central Government are in control.

The town, too, seemed to be calm, judging from the cities of Kabul and Herat, which I visited. The streets were busy and peaceful by day, and the curfew was in force at night. There seemed to be no foundation for reports that Afghan troops at the Kabul base of Pul-i-Sharqi had recently mutinied.

Meanwhile, President Karmal has won pledges of continued support from the Kremlin, in his recent visit to Moscow. —The Muslim-Guardian Service.

KABUL CRACKDOWN ON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 11 Nov 80 p 8

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Nov. 10: A large number of Kabul university students have been arrested during the past four months in a government crackdown on members of outlawed Islamic groups, an Afghan teacher said here today.

The teacher, who arrived from Kabul recently, told Reporters that most of the arrested students were charged with being members of the banned Muslim Brotherhood Organisation.

He said there were organised groups active on the campus, distributing anti-government pamphlets at night.

The 28-year-old Kabul university economist, who did not want to be named, said attendance in most faculties was low as many students had fled the country or had been drafted into the army.

The teacher, who is on his way to the United States, said that

security forces had also picked up students on the streets or from their homes for conscription.

EGYPTIAN AID: Egypt has been giving military aid to Afghan resistance fighters in Afghanistan to counter the Soviet intervention, President Anwar Sadat disclosed here today.

Addressing the first meeting of the constituent assembly of the League of Muslim and Arab Peoples, President Sadat said Egypt's aid was "military as well as material and political". And he added "The heroic Afghan resistance fighters are inflicting heavy losses on the Soviet invaders".

STEPPED UP: Hizbe-Islami Afghanistan has stepped up its guerrilla war activities in Kandhar province causing great panic and harassment in Babrak Government circles in Afghanistan.

The organisation claimed that Kandhar was now under control of

Mujahideen.

A Press release said in Peshawar that on Nov. 3, two Mujahideen attacked the two government officers in Kabul gate in Kandhar city. As a result one officer was killed and one Mujahideen wounded while another martyred.

On Nov. 4, the Mujahideen exploded Rang Bridge located 15 Km to the north of Kandhar. On the following day Mujahideen attacked the government convoy in Zang district, located near Kandhar.

On Nov. 6, the Mujahideen also attacked the Russian invading forces in Logran and Sarpoza district to the west of Kandhar city.

In this five tanks and three trucks of the Babrak regime were destroyed, and a lot of automatic weapons have been captured as a booty by Mujahideen. PPU/AFP Reuter

MOVEMENT OF AFGHAN ARMY EXAMINED

Karachi DAWN in English 21 Nov 80 p 7

[Article by Brig. A.R. Siddiqi (Retd.)]

[Text]

ACCORDING to a front-page story datelined New Delhi, Nov. 15, Kabul Radio announced major military exercises from November 16 in four Afghan provinces where anti-government guerillas have been active.

The radio, monitored in New Delhi, said "All forces would be moved" to the provinces of Parwan, Ghazni, Nangarhar and Kabul. "Exercises and manoeuvres" will be held by air and land forces.

There are two main types of military exercises — with and without troops or TEWT (tactical exercise without troops — pronounced Toot). A TEWT is a sand-model or map-room exercise like a game of chess involving hypothetical situations, moves and counter-moves — mental arithmetic in short. A collective exercise with troops involves moving bodies and things physically and deploying them on the ground, in the air and on water. Such an exercise could be either one-sided, with an imaginary enemy, or two-sided with a real enemy to counter the moves of own forces and thus to train them in various phases of war, e.g., advance-to-contact, attack, defence, withdrawal, etc.

Collective exercises or manoeuvres, in abnormal conditions such

as are obtaining in Afghanistan today, are also held to move and pre-position men and war materials in selected areas in anticipation of a military operation against a likely internal or external threat. Assembly (dumping) and concentration (deployment) areas, close to the border, are selected for moving men and material up front when required.

Coming almost in a chain sequence and at the heels of the three Afghan air raids into Pakistan, the reported garrisoning of the Wakhan corridor by the Soviet troops; the extended stay of Babrak Karmal in Moscow and his tirade against Pakistan on his return from there, the on-going Afghan military manoeuvres so close to the Pakistan borders, are significant if not sinister.

While one should firmly resist the temptation of jumping to conclusions, one can ignore a plausible hypothesis in an unpredictably difficult situation only at one's own cost.

Leonid Brezhnev's projected visit to New Delhi early in December together with Mrs Indira Gandhi's recent scathing utterances about Pakistan (reminding it the 1971 debacle and of India's magnanimity in vacating captured territories and releasing over 90,000 POWs) leave enough to one's imagination which should best be restrained without being curbed.

Accidents

Now a mere look at the map would show that the areas selected by the Afghan armed forces for their winter manoeuvres, make a rough arc in a south easterly direction. Ghazni forms the southern-most part of the arc and is also relatively deep inside to serve as the rear area to support operation further east close to the Pak-Afghan borders.

Furthermore, the activated arc lies right below the northern tier topped by Badakhshan (at the mouth of Wahan now being garrisoned by Soviet troops), which together with Kunduz, Baghlan, Kunar, Nangarhar, etc., have been the scene of some of the fiercest battles with the government forces.

The question is why the Afghan armed forces should have selected only this part of the country for their manoeuvres. Are there no training areas available in the rest of the country? On the face of it, at any rate, it would not look particularly well advised to hold manoeuvres along the hottest part of the border.

Suppose an accident occurs? In view of the fact that the air force is also taking part in the manoeuvres, it would be surprising if accidents do not occur — what with simple navigational errors, a plane crashing and falling down or an old artillery shell landing on the wrong side of the border.

One hopes that the Afghan mobilisation along the eastern border is not a prelude to the hot pursuit of the insurgents but the possibility cannot be overlooked.

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

SOVIET BOMBING NEAR HERAT--London, Nov. 16--Soviet bombing on villages near Herat city in Afghanistan has claimed a heavy toll, according to BBC report tonight. The radio quoted eye-witnesses as saying that over 50 villages have been destroyed and many dead bodies were still lying beneath debris causing stinking odour. The eye-witnesses also said that the attacks were carried out by the Soviets themselves. Since August last, Herat was under control of Mujahideen but now the Soviets have succeeded in restoring their hold on the city. BBC report said a third attack by Russians to drive out Mujahideen from Panjsher valley has proved fruitless. The Soviet armoured units have also launched fresh attacks on Mujahideen of Paktia Province, who have been consistently carrying out ambushes. Recently there have been reports of acute shortage of firewood in Kabul. Its prices have shot up beyond purchasing power of most of the population. BBC reported three clashes during the night between Mujahideen and the Soviet troops in Kabul during the preceding week and on Wednesday a car of secret police service was set on fire in broad daylight.--PFI [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 17 Nov 80 p 1]

MUJAHIDEEN CONTROL KANDHAR--Islamabad, Nov. 9--One of the three major Afghan cities, Kandhar, has gone out of the control of the Soviet troops and the Afghan Government forces, Radio Teheran reported. A diplomat who recently visited Kandhar city situated in the south of Afghanistan, has compared its situation with Herat city, where the Soviet intervention is being resisted and which is still under the control of Mujahideen. According to the diplomat, the Soviet and Afghan troops have abandoned their intention to seize the city because in such an attempt they will have to sustain a lot of loss of life. Meanwhile, Herbi-i-Islami Afghanistan has reported that Mujahideen attacked a Russian convoy which was on its way from Chazni to Urgun district located east of Ghazni at a distance of 50 km near the Saravza area. The fighting started on 3rd of Nov. and continued for five days. The Russian forces were reinforced thrice in order to break down the encirclement by the Mujahideen in which 12 tanks were destroyed and five trucks burnt. In another clash in the area of Kachoor Salar of Alinagar district, six tanks were destroyed and a large number of Russian troops were killed by the Mujahideen.--APP/PFI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 10 Nov 80 p 1]

AFGHAN SECRET POLICE IN DELHI--New Delhi, Nov. 17--Members of the Afghan secret police have arrived in New Delhi, apparently to foil any attempt by Afghan exiles to stage protests when Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev visits India next month, Afghan opposition sources said. President Brezhnev is expected here on December 8 for a five-day official visit and Afghanistan is likely to be a major topic in talks with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The sources said Afghans living in Delhi who include former government officials, had identified at least five members of the secret police who had, they said, arrived recently from Kabul to infiltrate the estimated 6,000-strong Afghan community here.--Reuter. [Text] [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 18 Nov 80 p 2]

REAGAN VIEWED AS NEW FALSE PROPHET

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 12 Nov 80 p 2

[Editorial: "Harmful Insects and Reagan's Election"]

[Text]

TEHRAN - The evening daily Ettela'at in its 'political analysis of the day' carried the following article written by Mohammedin Emami who is a famous commentator:

Four years have not yet passed since the appearance of the first 'supporter' of Human Rights when the puppet show of the U.S. presidential elections presented to 'humanity' its second protector of 'Human Rights'.

Four years ago in the course of the U.S. presidential elections, Jimmy Carter, in order to defeat his opponents and to bamboozle the public, resorted to the same means that the Spanish colonialists did five centuries ago to deceive the American Indians and to penetrate that large continent. Carter, with the consultation of his advisor, Brexerinsky while carrying the Bible in one hand and what was called 'Human Rights' in the other, made his attempts to win the elections.

Those who still remember the former-U.S. presidential elections four years ago know how Carter took the lead in the elections following the 'Watergate' scandal. Carter clothed himself in the holy garments (the revival of 'ethics and spirituality' and the ancient criteria of American Christianity) and so created a 'mission' for himself. He claimed that the materialist society of the United States could be rescued from the complicated worldly problems only through such remedies. Carter believed that the 'Watergate' scandal created by Nixon could be covered up just only by taking such measures. With the achievements he gained in the first stage he changed his 'mission' to an international one and exposed himself to the world in the guise of a new supporter of 'Human Rights'.

Nonetheless, only a few months after beginning his administration Carter's charm of 'Human Rights' stopped short of bewitching the masses and all his policies, either in Europe or the Latin America or the Middle and Far East revealed that he was indeed a real successor to Nixon.

Carter's policies vis-a-vis Iran and Palestine as well as Nicaragua exposed the diabolic face of Washington and revealed the real intentions of the White House pontiff of spiritualities and 'Human Rights'.

Now that four years have passed revealing the hollowness of any alleged concern by America for 'Human Rights', Ronald Reagan, the former cowboy actor of the United States and the new successor of Carter, in his most recent interview speaks of 'Human Rights' and gives the world the good tidings of the appearance of a new false prophet.

He has labelled as 'terrorists' the oppressed nation of Palestine which has been fighting for 35 years with the hope of returning to their rightful homeland. He considers 50 million U.S. Blacks and other minorities as being 'second class' citizens of this land. He is against an independent Palestine and against any negotiations with Palestinians.

Since notorious supporters of Zionism like Kissinger, General Alexander Haig and Senator Henry Jackson are close advisors and aides of Reagan, therefore, one of the main foundations of his 'Human Rights' policy includes the support for Zionism.

Consultation with the European allies and NATO members, and supporting owners of the American industries, to whom Reagan owes his victory in the elections, is another sign that the second pillar of his government would be based on strengthening militarism and Western military domination.

The decrease of welfare and development expenditures in the budget of the United States, the strengthening of racial discrimination and ignoring the rights of the oppressed in the interests of the oppressors is once again leading this country back to the policies of 50 years ago. In this way the revival of reaction is the third pillar of Reagan's government.

For these reasons, although he has not entered the White House, the agents of force and the spokesmen of subservient reactionary regimes are tripping over each other in their haste to congratulate him. Israel expects further support from the Reagan side. Sadat has hoped that the 'active and positive' role of the United States in establishing peace in the Middle East would continue as before. King Khalid of Saudi Arabia has welcomed Reagan's election most warmly and expressed worry over the present state of 'peace' throughout the world.

More interesting are the statements of 'Habib Chatti' the Secretary General of the Islamic Countries Conference. Chatti while expressing his 'sincere congratulations' had commented that Reagan could be 'better' fellow for the Arab and the Islamic World!

Thus, Reagan's election despite its overall disadvantage to humanity has had certain side benefits, that is, it has revealed the hypocrisy of the so-called 'neutral' statesmen.

'Harmful insects' either in Iran or other parts of the world which the United States considers the 'regions of its interests' have been inspired with new life and have started an offensive and mysterious movement, which is a warning to all revolutionaries particularly to those of Iran to be more alert.

Now that we are in war with the infidel Ba'athist regime of Iraq and under circumstances that, due to the extraordinary situation there are deficiencies and shortcomings, the hope of Washington's client has increased. They considered Carter an ineffective vehicle of their interests and have considered their hopes in Ronald Reagan.

But fortunately, the Revolution's eyes are open and while it spends its energy in thwarting the latest conspiracy of the United States on the Iraq-Iran border, is also aware of what transpires 'behind of the front' and of the frenetic activity of certain noxious insects.

MOJAHEDIN ASSIGNED SA'ADATI TO EXPOSE CIA AGENTS

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 15 Nov 80 p 2

(Text)

TEHRAN - Mohammad Reza Sa'adati was reported having revealed Tuesday that he was assigned by the left-wing Mujahdeen-e-Khalq organization to head operations intended to hunt and track down local networks of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and had been in contacts with an official in the Soviet Embassy in Iran that led to discovery of an assassination attempt underway on Imam Khomeini's life.

Sa'adati repeated his complaint in many sessions of his trial on charges of spying for the Soviet Union that despite of his desperate appeals to the court for a lawyer to defend the file, he was being denied his lawyer's presence.

He said that at least 10 persons were killed on the prolongation of the case and he did not want any more political pressures exerted on the Mujahdeen-e-Khalq organization of which he is a member, by halting the court proceedings any longer.

Sa'adati, pleading to extend the allowed time-limits of only 7 1/2 hours to defend himself said that he could not properly defend himself without the presence of a

defending lawyer and was bound to make a mess of his defenses, but preferred to carry on with the proceedings in order not to prolong the trial.

The Pars news agency, reporting another of his trial sessions late evening Wednesday, reported Sa'adati as having confessed that the first meeting with the contact, a Soviet journalist, took place in the house of the other Mujahedi "Reza" regarded as "family of martyrs" by the organization.

Pars said the Revolutionary Prosecutor, Lavardi, then read few documents procured from the Tehran's U.S. Embassy which identified Sa'adati's Russian contact as "Finseko" who was reported being conversant in both Farsi and English and a member of the Soviet secret service agency, the KGB and "did not have any interest in political questions." Sa'adati's trial is still continued.

The agency reported two "recessions" were called forth by the court during the 6th and 7th sessions of Sa'adati's trial that continued Thursday.

The Mujahed was report-

ed having told the court that the meetings resulted on the proposition of the left-wing group and as a consequence of the first move initiated by "the Journalist and Cultural member of Russia."

The prosecutor told that Sa'adati conducted "an illegal study" of his own file, took microfilms of all its pages and sent it to "Russia."

Sa'adati resorted with counter objections to the "method of investigations" carried out by the court and announced that he declared those pages "devoid of value" since "these were prepared under pressure and torture" applied on Sa'adati during his imprisonment for about 16 year period.

The head of the court asked the Mujahed to provide clarifications on "the Soviet spy's questions on the Tudeh Party, Fedayeen-e-Khalq, Kurdistan's episodes, and Shariatmadari."

Sa'adati referred to "pro-Shariatmadari" demonstrations and said the Mujahdeen-e-Khalq organization kept itself aloof on these matters, and Pars said that at this point the court called for a "recession" since there was "not enough time for further clarifications on the remaining issues."

ESHRAQHI REVIEWS ASPECTS OF ISLAMIC REVOLUTION

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 12 Nov 80 pp 1, 4

[Text]

TEHRAN - Three groups are responsible for sullying the Islamic Revolution and showing it up as what it really is not, said Ayatollah Eshraghi, the son-in-law of Revolutionary Leader Imam Khomeini, in a recent interview with the Persian daily 'Kayhan'.

Of the first group, Eshraghi said, were those who had no sympathy for Islamic Revolutionary aims whatever but were intent on exploiting the Islamic Revolution to fulfill their personal material gains. Such individuals, he described as opportunists.

A second group described by Eshraghi were those who made actual contributions to the Islamic Revolution and in the overthrow of the deposed shah. While this contribution is recognized, he said, it has to be asked whether their opposition was from motives of a sincere struggle against oppression and in the cause of God and Islam, or whether it was a hope that the struggle would bring them ultimate benefits.

It is possible that these strugglers only wished to gain high rank and diplomatic position, or simply a monopoly of power after the success of the revolution, Eshraghi said, and these persons in the second group were monopolists who were bringing discredit on the real revolutionaries.

Of the third group of really dedicated revolutionaries Eshraghi said their mistake is perpetuating the Islamic Revolution was filled with fervor and

zeal for Islam, but unfortunately tended to excesses which distorted the image of the Islamic Revolution.

They sometimes tended to show up the Islamic Revolution as hard, inflexible and uncompromising in the extreme, he said, pointing in particular to certain judges who had issued judgments that appeared to be unreasonable.

Eshraghi of course held closely to the line of Islamic deterrent punishments, saying that for example the cutting of a hand is a punishment for theft tended to intimidate a salutary fear and has proved a successful form of deterrent punishment according to Islamic Law. He said that such stern laws were necessary in order to maintain a healthy society.

However, he was critical of those who had enforced punishments that were not in conformity with the canons of Islamic Law and had been acted out indiscriminately at the whim of their judges.

Ayatollah Eshraghi took up in the interview a discussion on the topic of faith and expertise. He confirmed that expertise, when required as an essential advantage, combined with faith as a form of progressive knowledge brought increased benefits to society necessary for its development.

He further said that he was in complete agreement with the need for expertise among government members who already had faith.

When Ayatollah Eshraghi was asked about exporting of

the Islamic Revolution, he said it was important for Iran to have the best of relations with the rest of the world from all points of view and this would be one of the best means for improving on them the benefits and richness of the Islamic Revolution.

Besides, it was important for Iran to have economic and industrial relations with other countries in the world so that Iran could individually develop its own industrial strength, contributing to self-sufficiency and self-reliance. But he had the strongest reservations on compromises with the superpowers or any other country if having relations with them meant giving up the prime Iranian goal of preserving its self-reliance and independence.

In concluding his interview Eshraghi said all his comments had been made with the purpose of harmonizing and bringing about solidarity within society. Constructive criticism even among Muslims is not to be spurned but is a thing of necessity, so that it will lead to self-examination and improvement of conditions, he said, adding that it was more necessary now than ever in these sensitive times.

Ayatollah Eshraghi said he hoped that after the war was over the nation would be able to settle down to a period in

which it can address itself to internal problems and have no fear of constructive criticism for improvement of conditions in an effort to better society.

FOUNDATION DISTRIBUTES PLOTS OF LAND

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 12 Nov 80 p 2

[Text]

TEHRAN -- The Housing Foundation has distributed 125,000 plots of land among the residents of the provinces and 15,000 plots of land among residents of Tehran since October 14, declared the Minister of Housing and Urban Development, Engineer Gonabadi, in his report to the Majlis yesterday.

One item on the agenda of yesterday's open session of the Majlis was a review of the activities of the Housing Foundation since October 14, the day it passed under the direction of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development.

Gonabadi continuing with his report, also declared that from October 14 onwards, the Foundation has completed 10,000 buildings for the poor which were partially constructed and repaired 10,000 other buildings.

The Housing Foundation has granted 240 million rials in interest free loans; loaned 700 million rials at one per cent interest; and lent 300 million rials at four per cent interest.

In addition to these sums, the Foundation has given 200 million rials in outright grants to the poor for use in purchasing construction materials, he said.

As his concluding point, Gonabadi referred to Article 85 of the Constitution and proposed that the Majlis appoint delegates to deal with the housing problem in the country. The Majlis then directed

its attention to another issue of immediate concern: the war refugees.

Majlis Speaker Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani reported that various deputies have referred to him and declared that their provinces are capable of accepting refugees. Rafsanjani advised that these deputies should meet with the governor generals and supervisors of their respective provinces and with the cooperation of the Ministry of the Interior, this problem would be resolved.

Speaker Rafsanjani then proposed the appointment of Engineer Ezzatollah Sahabi as the fully-authorized Majlis representative in the Commission for the Law of Protection and Development of the Industries of Iran, which the Majlis approved.

Ali Asghar Baghani, a deputy from Sabzevar, addressed the Majlis concerning his ongoing war with Iraq.

"Our nation has proved that if the war is prolonged they will endure it, relying on their complete faith in God and Islam", he said.

"Our enemy, the Ba'athist regime of Iraq, should realize that our nation is now fully prepared to face any conceivable hardship. These two years following the Revolution have developed a true revolutionary spirit in the people, which combined with their experience, enables them to confront any enemy."

U.S. REACTION TO IRAQI WAR WITH IRAN ATTACKED

Baghdad BAHIDAD OBSERVER in English 13 Nov 80 p 2

[Article by 'Abd al-Nur 'Abbud: "American Militarism Potential Threat to Gulf"]

[Text] American militarism, battered in lengthy encounters in Vietnam, Korea, Latin America and the Middle East, is making another show of strength in the current conflict between Iraq and Iran. In provoking the war, the Persian regime gave the United States a much-awaited opportunity to meddle in the affairs of the Gulf region and flex military muscles in a way threatening world security.

The U.S. hastened to dispatch 32 warships to the region "to protect vital interests" and encouraged other powers to assert similar military presence miles away from their countries. U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who has been for one long year begging the Khomeini regime to release the hostages, now resorted to assert irrational strength and heighten tension in the region. He failed to raise a voice of opposition when the Zionist invaders got away with Arab territory which is three times as large as the 1947 partition area allotted for the Zionist entity. But in the Iraq-Iran conflict, he volunteered to make explicit accusations and expressed hypocritical concern over Iran's territorial integrity as being threatened by Iraq.

Although Iraq made it clear that the war was imposed upon it and that it had no territorial ambitions in Iran, U.S. opportunism continued to brag about concern over Iranian territory with an aim not difficult to interpret. The U.S. imperialists are pinning much hope to Persian fanatics now in power to play somehow a role similar to that played by the deposed Shah in serving American aggressive strategies.

Under apparent encouragement from Zionist lobby in the U.S., Mr Carter and his Secretary of State Edmund Muskie labelled Iraq's self-defence as aggression and U.S. representative at the U.N. Security Council claimed Iraq had invaded Iran and that the invasion threatened its dismemberment. With the Zionist aggression on territories of four Arab countries still abetted and encouraged by the U.S. administration and financed by U.S. tax-payers, the United States cannot claim impartiality of judgement.

Mr. Carter has now been failed by his Zionist voters in spite of humiliating pledges and promises to the Zionist entity. He had assured Jewish electorate he would continue his service to the Zionists if he were to be elected. His campaign coincided with a new round of Zionist aggressions on south Lebanon and occupation of new territories in total defiance of international law and U.N. conventions.

President-elect Reagan will reach the White House in January against a background of promises of increased assistance to the Zionist entity and belligerent declarations about renewal of the arms race. This means further complications area ahead in the U.S. policy which can only increase tension in the world. As far as this region is concerned, U.S. politicians must have a second thought about their military and strategic postures or risk turning the region into a virtual hotbed for super-power rivalry and escalate world tension. This will not serve U.S. long-term interests. The hostages game and the fuss stirred about it cannot deceive the world. U.S. politicians must understand that American interests can only be served through human approach to the interests and sovereignty of other nations. If they were to presume that the reactionary regime in Iran could undertake the notorious role of a policeman serving American strategic interests in the Arab Gulf, they better recall the fate of their former policeman! Only a change of American heart can alter the image of ugly American in the Middle East. The big stick diplomacy and hooliganism on the international scene are doomed to failure, sooner or later.

CSO: 4820

IRAQ ECONOMY SAID TO BE STRONG DESPITE WAR

Baghdad BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 18 Nov 80 p 6

[Article by Dr Bashir A. al-Alak: "A Solid and Prosperous Economy"]

[Text]

"A good and concrete economy can never be built overnight. It requires good planning, hard work, dedication and full utilisation of resources. Besides, a healthy economy is that which remains so for generations to come." This statement is the result of a painstaking research work in the economic field conducted by the famous economist Peter Drucker.

This vitally important statement leads me to shed some light on the Iraqi economy, specially at a time when the country is engaged in a war against Iran. It should be emphasised that it is a well-known fact that the mere indication or rumour of a distant conflict between two or more countries is sufficient by itself to bring out catastrophic effects on the economies and the well being of the parties involved. Furthermore, it is

inevitable that a war between the two oil producing countries can be described as an "economically damaging" one, bearing in mind that Iraq and Iran depend to a larger extent on revenues from oil for present and future development plans.

Yet, the Iraqi economy is stronger than ever before. This fact need not puzzle economic analysts and planners. One may wonder, therefore, what is the "secret" behind Iraq's healthy economy at a time when Iran's economy is suffering from disintegration, chaos and absolute bankruptcy. This article is intended to bring the facts to the open.

1. Besides its large oil reserves, Iraq has a strong agricultural base and is not nearly as dependent on foreign expertise to run its economy as in the case of Iran, whose

agricultural sector is underdeveloped and ailing. Iraq has enormous agricultural potential due to the rivers Tigris and Euphrates which give Iraq its ancient name, Mesopotamia — the land between the rivers.

2. Iraq enjoys tremendous amount of foreign reserves. Iraq could pay for all its needs for a full year without earning a cent from oil or any other source. According to International Monetary Fund statistics, Iraq's reserves were four times larger than its import bill. However, Iran's reserves have been dwindling even before the start of the war and has since been living on charities.

3. Iraq's credit rating is excellent. In his recent press conference, President Saddam Hussein told world journalists that, "We have had contacts from numerous countries and financial institutions offering their readiness and desire to loan us, but we have declined their offers." From an economic point of view, this clearly shows that Iraq enjoys an international reputation and has the trust and respect of the majority of countries of the world.

4. Unlike Iran, Iraq has a leadership capable of achieving the aspired objectives. As Peter Drucker pointed out, a good

economy is not built overnight. If an economy is to remain solid and prosperous, it will certainly require good planners and thinkers behind it. It definitely needs dedication and a leadership capable of achieving long range planning objectives. As President Saddam Hussein pointed at the press conference, "We are in a strong economic situation. Our plans for this year will be carried out as scheduled, and will be fulfilled on time, and our Five-Year Plan will see the light on time too, in 1981 precisely. It will be weighed in several billions of dinars and not dollars. We will continue with our plans even if we had to do without oil revenues for the next five years. Our thirteen years of hard work, patience and perseverance are bound to reap good results."

5. Iraq's economy is unique in the sense that it has withheld periods of severe hardship, whereas the Iranian economy has been suffering from periods of ups and downs even at the best of times. In 1973, Iraq's nationalisation initiative met with great success contrary to widespread beliefs and convictions that the Iraqi economy could not possibly survive. The same expectations and predictions were made during the 1974 renegade pockets in Nor-

thern Iraq. Although the war against these pockets lasted for twelve months, Iraq successfully managed to win the war and achieve political & economic stability. If the economy was not solid enough, it would have collapsed in few hours, let alone months.

6. Iraq's economy enjoys what economists call a state of "Full Employment". Full employment indicates a situation where all people who wish to work are employed. In other words, the Iraqi economy can absorb increasing number of workers in an effort to enhance its structure and utilise its under capacity. While full employment indicates a high standard of living for those engaged in it, unemployment indicates a state of economic chaos and mismanagement. This characterises the Iranian economy, as hundreds of Iranians every day find themselves without jobs and securities. Persistent unemployment is the biggest threat to any country's economy and can have damaging repercussions on the well-being of its people.

7. While Iran has completely devoted itself to the war, leaving behind its other activities and completely ignoring the state of the economy, Iraq's everyday life is normal and stable. As it is stated above, the Five-Year Plan will be approved shortly and executed on time. "We do not wish to be bogged down with war, because if we do, our progress, which we value so highly, would suffer, and this would help achieve the basic aims of those who forced the war on us, whether in Iran or outside it". President Hussein said at the press conference. This philosophy stems from the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party's deep-rooted conviction that the country must develop itself and build a solid economy capable of achieving happiness and prosperity not only for the Iraqi people but for all Arabs everywhere. Iraq, unlike Iran, is not interested in short-term gains, but rather, in a healthy economy that our generations would be proud of.

ENEMY CAMPAIGN OF RUMORS AGAINST IRAQ ALLEGED

Baghdad BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 13 Nov 80 p 6

[Article by Dr Ihsan M al-Hasan: "Fruitless Effort"]

[Text] Since the beginning of the Persian racist aggression in Iraq, Persian mass media, backed by imperialist and Zionist social psychologists together with the fifth column which constitutes Persian agents and spies, reactionary elements and the enemies of Iraq's Revolution, have spread all kinds of rumours among the ordinary people. Such rumours aim at twisting facts and forging evidence to confuse people, destroy their morale and weaken their will to fight and challenge the aggression.

When the designers of rumours achieve such objectives, the enemies might have a hope of winning the psychological war and this, consequently, enables them to realize certain victories in the military conflict. That is why our mass media during the war have to be over active in revealing the rumours, ascertaining their sources, perceiving their purposes and repulsing them publicly by providing material proofs which counteract their allegations and lies.

Rumour is an inconsistent and distorted story which constitutes hazy and contradictory information. The circulated story embodies some confused and dubious facts particularly when its details are complicated and ramified. Rumours usually appear during tragedies and general crises such as the outbreak of wars and epidemics and the occurrences of political and social conflicts and dissensions. The Persian racists and their agents have circulated many rumours among the Iraqi people during the war knowing that the war circumstances serve the purpose of misleading the people by diffusing among them fabricated stories, unconfirmed news and inconclusive details about events which concern them and evoke their emotion.

Baseless Rumours

Persian imperialist agents intended to break up Iraq's internal national solidarity and cohesion, and to weaken the cemented ties between the political leadership and the people. In so doing, they spread absurd and ridiculous rumours which claim that Iraq is suffering from sectarian conflicts and political divisions and dissensions, and that there is a keen rivalry and struggle between the leadership and certain religious sects and political groups.

False allegations like these are far from the truth. Nobody denies the coherent solidarity of the Iraqi masses and the high degree of cooperation and unification which exists among them. Nor does anyone fail to see the popularity of the Iraqi political leadership headed by President Saddam Hussein and his overwhelming backing by the masses. Such facts concerning the reality of the Iraqi internal front and the stout ties which bind the Iraqi leadership with the masses falsify the Persian imperialist rumours circulated in the country.

Moreover, the Persian imperialist agents tried to

transmit some fabricated stories about the strength and superiority of the Persian racist armed forces, their alleged victories in the battle, and the damage and losses they inflicted on Iraqi military and economic institutions. All material and documentary evidence show quite categorically the tremendous triumph of the Iraqi army in the battle, its capability and efficiency in achieving its military targets in a short period of time, its crushing success in destroying Persian military and economic installations, capturing hundreds of Persian troops, heavy military equipments including aircrafts, tanks and ships, and huge quantities of ammunition.

BRIEFS

LIBERATED AREAS POSTAL SERVICE--The Ministry of Transport and communications has opened four post offices in four territories liberated by Iraqi forces during its battle against the Persian aggressors. Mr. Sadoun Ghaidan, Revolution Command Council member and Minister of Transport and Communications told Iraqi News Agency yesterday that these post offices have already started offering services in their areas as well as to Iraqi fighters. The Minister pointed out that the Iraqi mail services are offered regularly and normally and that the International Post Federation has been informed of the continuity of Iraq's foreign mail services as they used to be before the Iraq-Iran conflict. The Minister also confirmed that the mail service staff that had accompanied the Iraqi forces in its march inside Iranian territories have completed installing mailing and saving boxes in Iraqi positions. It is worth mentioning that the said post offices were opened in Muhammara, Mahran, Dezful and Qasr Sheeren. [Text] [Baghdad BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 18 Nov 80 p 1]

CSO: 4820

IMMIGRANT PRESSURE GROUPS DEPLORED

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 3 Oct 80 p 5

[Article by Dr Ram Yashi: "Community Mobilization"]

[Text] The ferment rising in the absorption centers mainly in the north of the country and in particular among the immigrants from the Soviet Union points up the prevalence of a difficult perception among them. There exists a feeling of great discrimination and anger over the careless and unconcerned handling in what they perceive to be their central problems. We all agree that the variety of red tape and tribulations damage the immigrants and it is the duty of those responsible to effect improvement. However, we must distinguish between this situation and two other manifestations:

1. Those immigrants who were interviewed and indicated mainly violation of economic privileges, for example: inappropriate housing conditions or wage conditions, temporary work, and the like. They should not be blamed, as it may be that those who did not know how to give them the proper response gorged them with promises that are not redeemable under the conditions of the country. Upon their arrival in this country they reveal that not only are the promises made to them not being redeemed, but in addition they are not able to receive correct notions of what the government is capable and not capable of granting them. It is also difficult for them to understand what the norms prevalent in the country are. No doubt these immigrants would be appalled if they completely understood the situation of a large number of native born persons and of those who immigrated 30 years ago who are still living under conditions worse than theirs, and this is a very serious matter. Today's period is different from that of the past when a generation of the founders preached to the new immigrants and explained that they must go through a difficult period in order to attain what they had attained.

Statistics tell us who are in the bottom two-tenths in the country. There is the danger of deep ferment among the mideast communities which despite their seniority in the country still find themselves in the status of deprived in contrast to those who have newly arrived.

The manifestation of "tent" settlements on the land and the expansion of the Anbi movement has come against the background of people suffering economic discrimination who are rebelling against the sense of failure--the inability to attain over the course of 30 years better economic and social conditions. The Anbi movement

expresses the perception that if the State invested in families blessed with children what it invests today in an immigrant, it would also eliminate the feeling of discrimination and in particular would strengthen the sense that from a democratic standpoint there is no less importance attached to internal immigration than to immigration from beyond our borders—especially when the latter is so meager.

2. Insult has been added to injury by those labeling themselves immigrant organizations. At least according to the present handling it can be established that these organizations harm but do not help. Instead of assuring better absorption of the immigrants they foster among them a feeling of isolation.

People who had done everything in their homeland to become Israelis are here doing everything to belong to those abandoning that homeland.

Many among the immigrants from the Soviet Union rebel against this manifestation and their desire is only to transform as quickly as possible into Israelis in every sense.

There is also the fear of a confrontation between groups of immigrants—as we have recently brought to light—in immigrant centers. There is no doubt that this is antithetical to the goal of the integration of exiles and the creation of a unified nation.

The fervor of the organizational spokesman has brought on unrestrained expressions against the State as a whole. It is difficult to understand how people in the public eye who are sensitive to the image of Israel abroad, closed an eye to a situation which was exploited for evil by the anti-Israel propaganda in the Soviet Union.

* * *

And as we still stand stupefied by the manifestation in the absorption centers, the affair of the Ministry of Religions overtakes us. No one knows, of course, what the police investigation is eliciting and what the conclusions will be, but even here we are witnesses to distortion and to exploitation for ill of the community sense of discrimination.

The sense of discrimination is explicable among immigrants from North Africa who, on the way to their absorption, had passed through all the "Departments of Hell" both from a spiritual as well as from a material standpoint. The disgrace is that offspring of the immigrants from the mid-east communities have all but been convinced of their inferiority—it will still take a long time to correct the injustice and to restore their self-respect to the children of these communities; there is no doubt that they are entitled to a different economic and social status.

But what relevance does this have to the community mobilization to defend a public figure?

Many of the members of the mid-east communities achieved high office, bettered themselves at the expense of the discrimination of members of their own community.

The very fact of their finding themselves in their station did not contribute significantly to the improvement of the situation of that particular community. The greatest blame hovers over the parties, both left and right, which seized upon the person most comfortable to them—not in order to advance the interests of the community but rather to assure support and votes and at times on the basis of empty promises.

The watchword about the impossibility of misleading most of the people most of the time is known. There is no substitute for sage policy to correct errors which have been committed in the past. The social gap must be narrowed, the economic discrimination must be corrected and self-respect must be restored. This cannot be accomplished by organizations of immigrants.

We were recently informed that the Sephardic Federation is soliciting public support for the Ministry of Religions under the guise of community discrimination.

What is the Sephardic Federation, what does it represent, what are its goals, who chose its leaders, whom does it serve? In the few cases known to me, when someone turned to this Federation to solve an education or a health problem of a member of the Sephardic community, a negative answer was forthcoming—that the Federation lacks resources. In a country which absorbs immigration from the Diaspora there is room for organizations that will guard the heritage of the community, that will nurture the seminal values, in order to emphasize the variegated nature of the Israel nation and thereby to enrich our culture. There is no place for the organization of those who departed from various exiles into pressure groups.

8090

CSO: 4805

PREMIER SCORED FOR POLITICAL PROMISE

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 30 Oct 80 p 11

[Article by Yehuda Litani: "Settlement Obstructions"]

[Text] On Sunday of this week when members of the former kibbutz Beyt Ha'arava arrived at the remnants of the kibbutz which had been destroyed during the War of Liberation, many were overcome with emotion. This was on the day of the takeover of the land held by NAHAL [Pioneer Fighting Youth] in the name of Beyt Ha'arava at a distance of several kilometers from the original site which is near the 'Abdallah Bridge over the Jordan River. Members of the kibbutz who had to retreat on 20 May 1948 to Sodom—a kibbutz which had transformed salt earth to a place of fertility—showed their children and grandchildren where the dining room, the nursery and the water line had been located. Afterwards, during the installation ceremony, the former members of Beyt Ha'arava saw the young pioneers decked in tricot shirts bearing the special logograph—a representation of the Dead Sea beside the legend "Return to Beyt Ha'arava 1948-1980"—their hearts swelled with pride.

Most of the former Beyt Ha'arava members had already formed a new kibbutz named Kavari, which belongs to the Kibbutz Ham'e'uchad [Federation of Collectives]. This is the kibbutz [collective farm] movement of the late Yigal Allon, originator of the very famous Allon Plan, in which a strip of some 12 kilometers free of Israeli settlements had been set up. Up to the time of the upset in June of 1977, Alignment governments had been careful not to settle the corridor in order to retain it as a negotiation card in the foreseen negotiations with Jordan and in order to provide Jordan with direct passage, clear of Israeli settlement, to connect with the other areas intended to be transferred to Jordan in Samaria and in Judea.

On the Line—and Beyond

The NAHAL takeover of Beyt Ha'arava, whose establishment stirred memories and sentiments associated with the old and good Eretz Yisrael, is one of 6 settlements which had been set up in the Jericho sector by the Likud government with the goal of "blocking" the Jericho corridor and of preventing the Alignment government—if the Alignment in fact crushes the Likud in the elections more than a year hence—from exercising the "Jordanian Option" or, as it is expressed by the members of the Herut "prevention of the establishment of a PLO state."

Three of the six settlements in the Jericho Corridor sector have already been established. Three others are contemplated for the near future. When a number of

former Beyt Ha'arava members, people of the Kibbutz Federation, were questioned about the contradiction between their deceased leader and the establishment of the renewed Beyt Ha'arava, some of them answered in confusion: "The important thing is to establish another settlement."

Every settlement policy of the government is designed primarily to obstruct the policy plans of the next government, and secondarily to establish a base to be reckoned with of settlements on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. In a brochure recently published by the first ranking expert for settlement affairs in Israel and the head of the settlement department of the Jewish Agency, Prof Ra'anah Weitz, he wrote among other things: "The current form of dealing with settlement can be considered 'running amok' which is content merely with pegging stakes into the area... In the West Bank, which is the region densely populated by Arabs, only 21 settlements have been established, all of them as a temporary measure only. Yet, because of their difficult situation and the enormous base cost, nearly 10 billion Israel pounds have been poured into these settlements ... (1 billion shekels [the new Israeli coin]). The improper method of dealing and the failing strategy have brought the existing settlements to a severe situation from an economic standpoint."

One bent on a plan of obstructionism rather than a plan of serious settlement, will not be satisfied with what exists and will seek to add more and more settlements--roadblocks for the next government, in order to prevent the establishment of a PLO state or return of a part of the Territories to the Kingdom of Jordan. That is why we need not take seriously the proclamation attributed to Prime Minister Menahem Begin according to which they mean to establish "only 4 more settlements."

One of the methods of circumventing the proclamation about the 4 settlements is to establish new settlements on the green line, the majority of which at the time of establishment will be within the confines of "lesser Israel," but within the confines of the West Bank. When one examines the Master Plan for Development of Settlement in Judea and Samaria of Mati Drobles, the associate chief of the Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency, one detects several proposed blocks of settlements within these (adjacent to the green line): 5 or 6 of this type of settlement are proposed for establishment in the sector of the slopes of Mount Hebron, another 4 settlements are proposed for establishment in the Yotir block south of Mount Hebron, 4 additional settlements are proposed for establishment in the "West Block" north-west of the Bank. Likewise with Halmish Block and with Modi'in Block, both in the central section of the Bank, and in another block called the North Samaria Section. In all of the blocks mentioned, it is possible to establish (and everything in accordance with known and revealed plans) at least 15 more settlements. There is little doubt that this option will be exercised by the settlement leaders of the Likud government--Arik Sharon, Mati Drobles and their colleagues in the Gush Emunim [a political group].

Another method for setting up new settlements while circumventing Begin's proclamation is the "amoeba method" or division of existing settlements into 2 or even into 3 settlements. The Military Authority and the Israel Lands Administration are siting tracts of land (governmental, rocky ground, and--since necessity knows no law--at times even private lands) adjacent to the existing settlement, for transfers of some of the settlers as a new "suburb" of the settlement. With the passage of time the suburb becomes a settlement for all intents and purposes. That was so in the case of the settlement Mitzpah Jericho, which at the start of its establishment was considered a "suburb" of Ma'aleh Adumim despite a distance of 8 kilometers between the two points.

Cancelling Debts

By this method it is possible to establish a minimum of some 10 new settlements without the thing being considered (by the Government of Israel, at least) as establishment of new settlements. Not to mention that many of the new settlements on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip are at present in this kind or another stage of construction, planning or approval. Only a certified public accountant is able to ascertain at this time, at the beginning of the month of October 1980, which 4 new settlements exactly did the Prime Minister allude to. Who knows precisely which settlements have been approved? When? By whom?

Until not too long ago, Likud spokesmen were able to say that Settlement X being constructed at such and such a location had already been approved during the days of the Alignment government. Now this is more difficult, but we must admit that this government is more open on the matter of settlements than the Alignment governments, and plans of future settlement are spread out for all interested parties to see, local or foreign, resident of the West Bank or a person from the US Embassy in Tel Aviv.

The settlement "obstruction" is meant, as stated, for an Alignment government which is about to be formed following the coming elections (if indeed the current differences between Peres and Rabin do not return the Alignment to its condition prior to the June 1977 elections). Presently, abundant capital is flowing to the settlements, especially to those on the West Bank which are the "spoiled brats" of the Likud government. A small example, and not even the most prominent one, may be that of the Ministry of Religions. From 1967 to the present 143 settlements were constructed in the Territories--most of them, until now, defined as non-religious. Despite this the Ministry of Religions maintains in the Territories 107 rabbis in full position, 140 ritual slaughterers in part-time position, and 177 bath attendants (who work in the ritual baths) in part-time positions.

As are the rabbis in full or part-time position, the slaughterers and the bath attendants, so also are many other settlers occupied in the settlements in government positions. Thus, for example, Benny Katzover, one of the leaders of the Gush Emunim and a settler of Elon Moreh, serves also as head of the religious council in the district. The settlers fear that should the Alignment come to power it will attempt to prune these plantings. According to their calculations the Alignment will shy away from an open physical confrontation, from evacuation attempts which did not succeed during the previous session either--and therefore (and even the Alignment leaders are talking about this more or less openly) will employ the method of "draining budgets."

The current government relates with munificence, with excessive munificence, to the settlements on the West Bank and in the [Gaza] Strip, in which it recognizes an obstacle to a PLO-Palestinian state.

A subtle indication of this was given last week during a tour of the Bank by the chairman of the Jewish Agency Aryeh Dulcin, a member of the Liberal Party, who related that while he was treasurer he cancelled for "these marvelous people" (the Gush Emunim people) various debts. How much did he cancel? Tens of thousands? Hundreds of thousands? Millions? Mr Dulcin remained mute and did not explain.

And if it is thus with the Liberals, who are not among the leading advocates of settlements among the Likud, how are the people of Herut and Rafi, whose list of concerns is topped by settlements, proceeding?

Coming back to Beyt Ha'arav, in which the veterans of the kibbutz were almost reduced to tears this week at the sight of the land takeover of the new NAHAL holding which carries the same name. There was a military parade and bugles, raising of the flag, and even the Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Tsipori found time to arrive at the ceremony in a helicopter. Those very veterans who made salt lands fertile and transformed them into a blooming garden believe that this is also the goal of the settlers in the present. And that is not so. The new Beyt Ha'arava is an obstruction in the series of more or less regular obstructions designed not to make fertile but rather to break up. That is why they make do with a line of huts anywhere in the dunes near the 'Abdallah Bridge. This is the settlement policy of the Likud and it has not yet even reached its peak of acceleration.

If in fact the Alignment regains power, and girds itself and seeks to dismantle these obstacles, it will have to do this by the application of rationality and with utmost patience. Haste emanates from Satan, goes a familiar Arab adage. Add indeed, anyone seeking to change a new reality, which has taken place over an extended period, in too great haste will break up the obstacle rather than dismantle it and of course damage will result.

BOYO

CSO: 4805

COMMUNISTS CITED ON POTENTIAL ROLE OF NATIONAL MOVEMENT

LD181531 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 13 Nov 80 pp 6-7

[Report by special correspondent Dominique Bari on return from southern Lebanon: "Bombs Over Nabatiyah"]

[Excerpt] "As an integral part of the Near East crisis, the Lebanese crisis will only be finally resolved when there is an all-embracing, just and lasting settlement in the region," we were told by Zuhayr Tawilah, member of the Lebanese Communist Party Politburo and chief of the Communist daily AL-NIDA. "But the national movement believes there is a possibility of a step forward toward a solution nationally. This possibility accords with the deep aspirations of the whole Lebanese people. This is the significance of the proposals made to President Sarkis last spring. These proposals were based on the principles of the country's integrity, the [word indistinct] nature of Lebanon and the condemnation of Israeli aggression in the south and the Phalangists' partition plan. The question of Lebanon's democratic development and the question of the army, its reorganization and its deployment in all sectors were also raised."

The extreme right, which was opposed to the plan, was isolated, but Sarkis' equivocations helped it. The prime minister, Al-Huss, balked at the question of the army and resigned. His designated successor, Taqiy al-Din al-Sulh, failed in his attempt to form a government. Shafiq al-Wazzan has just been appointed in his turn. What will he do? Since the spring the Lebanese crisis has deteriorated: Israeli pressures have been stepped up in the south, as we have seen, and the Phalangists, by means of machineguns, have strengthened their military authority at their allies' expense in the so-called "Christian" sector. In July 1980 Bashir al-Jumayyil, chief of the Phalangist militia, got rid of the military apparatus of Sham'un's party, the National Liberal Party, the last ally within the "Lebanese front." Bashir's aim is to ensure he has all the power in the reactionary region, to establish his own order there and play a strong card with respect to the central power in order to bring about the failure of any political compromise in Lebanon.

"There is in effect a partition supported by Israel, which now wishes to link the reactionary stronghold of Mount Lebanon to the southern enclave where Haddad is." "Who can stop this threat?" the communists ask. The state and the army cannot and will not. The Syrians no longer have the means, and that only leaves the national movement and other Lebanese antifascist forces.

A plan now under discussion by the national movement leadership aims, in particular, to ensure the movement's preponderance over all the other forces present in Lebanon and to put an end to the process of attrition in the progressive regions, as Georges Hawi, general secretary of the Lebanese Communist Party, said at a meeting in Saida on the party's 56th anniversary. "The national movement must be the essential driving force in the struggle against the isolationist plan." One aspect--not the least important--of this struggle, the communists stress, concerns the security of the population in the regions controlled by the national movement. "On this basis," Georges Hawi specified, "we can mobilize the patriotic Lebanese masses with greater force and therefore do more to support the Palestinian revolution and the Arab steadfastness front."

In this struggle the Lebanese progressives are appealing for international solidarity.

CSO: 4800

FRANCO-MOROCCAN COMMISSION MEETING TO WORK OUT COOPERATION PROBLEMS

Current Situation Reviewed

Casablanca MAROC SOIR in French 28 Oct 80 p 2

[Article: "The Franco-Moroccan High Commission Will Meet in Paris This Week--Mr Boucetta Will Lead the Moroccan Delegation"]

[Text] Rabat, 28 October (AFP [French News Agency])--M'Hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs & cooperation, will leave Rabat for Paris on Wednesday to take part in the meeting of the Franco-Moroccan high commission.

Mr Boucetta will be accompanied by some 15 high officials in finance and the technical ministries.

This high commission, created in 1970, has met only twice: the first time in 1971, in Paris, and the second time in April 1979, in Rabat. The third meeting had been planned for last spring in Paris, but His Majesty Hassan II's visit to France at that time led the two governments to postpone it to the autumn.

Mr Boucetta will be received on Wednesday by President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, to whom he will deliver a message from the Sovereign. He will also have talks with the prime minister, Raymond Barre, and will have a private conversation with Mr Francois-Poncet.

Finally, the two delegations will work in committees.

The talks and sessions as a whole can be categorized under four headings: political matters, economy and finance, cultural and cooperation matters, consular and social problems.

In the political area, Boucetta and Francois-Poncet will continue the talks they began in New York in September on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly. They will concentrate on the problems connected with the Maghreb region, after Barre's visit to Tunis and the signing of the Frano-Algerian agreement, with the Western Sahara affair in the background.

The Israeli-Arab conflict will also be discussed, and particularly the problem of Jerusalem, which is of special interest to His Majesty Hassan II, who is chairman of the "AL QUDS" committee of the Islamic Conference. The subject of the war between Iraq and Iran will surely be raised also.

In the economic domain, a comprehensive review will be done, toward a reorientation of relations in function of the needs of the two countries. Morocco, which is preparing to launch a 5-year development plan, desires considerable French participation. It could favor it by private-investment reform and by incentive measures for small and medium-size enterprises.

In 1978 and 1979, France had strengthened its No 1 position among Morocco's trading partners by taking 27.4 percent of Moroccan exports (26.5 percent in 1978) and by providing 27.7 percent of its imports (26.1 percent in 1978)

But this share fell to 23.8 percent for the first half of 1980, because of the reduction in Moroccan imports of equipment goods, which are reported to constitute 40 percent of French sales, and the dizzying increase for petroleum products.

At the same time, the rate of coverage, which was 53.4 percent for the first half of 1979, rose to 75.9 percent for the corresponding period of 1980.

The Moroccan authorities would like to interest French industry in the country's big development projects: steel at Nador, on the Mediterranean coast; mining of phosphate uranium, oil shale; extraction of uranium from phosphates; fishing and canning; agricultural development; development of infrastructures, etc. For this purpose, they are seeking a "new generation" of industrial investments.

In the area of cultural cooperation, the conclusions will be drawn from the visit by the French minister for universities, Mrs Alice Saunier, last September. The number of French cooperation personnel is presently 4,600. The number of teachers, however, is to be reduced by 300 at the end of a 5-year stabilization plan.

The situation of the 388,000 Moroccan workers in France will be at the center of the fourth category of the Franco-Moroccan talks. The problem of the Moroccan "hewers" of Lorraine will probably cause our delegation to ask for assurances and commitments along the lines of the recent Franco-Algerian agreement on immigrant workers.

As for the French community in Morocco, it still numbers about 46,5000, despite the progress in Moroccanization and the obstacles placed in the way of regular renewal of work contracts.

Strengthening of Bilateral Cooperation

Casablanca MAROC SOIR in French 31 Oct 80 p 1

[Article by Mohamed Idrissi Kaitouni: "Morocco-France--Strengthening Bilateral Cooperation"]

[Text] The Moroccan-French permanent intergovernmental commission opened its proceedings in Paris yesterday under the presidency of M'Hamed Boucetta and Jean Francois-Poncet. Several Subjects are on the agenda, and negotiations are to be undertaken to solve the problems in suspense and especially to revive cooperation between the two countries in the various areas on solid foundations, in mutual respect and in a climate of complete understanding.

But it can be asserted at this time that the two parties will be animated by a firm desire to give a new impulse to bilateral relations and to develop further the bonds

between the two peoples. Thanks to this desire and this spirit of cooperation, the two parties will succeed in solving all the problems encountered at the level of trade relations, financial relations, technical assistance and cooperation in general.

The trade balance between the two countries in 1979 was more than 2 billion dirhams in deficit to the detriment of Morocco, and it is up to the joint commission to find the means to eliminate this deficit, mainly by means of more sustained activities by France on the economic and financial level (increasing public and private investments, opening up a line of credit to finance Morocco's purchases from France, etc).

Furthermore, and in view of the privileged and historic bonds that unite Morocco and France, the latter should increase the government's share in the lending granted to our balance of payments, notably in the form of "project aid," because of the fact that the 1981-85 5-year plan will be a development plan comprising the carrying-out of important production and infrastructure projects and consequently necessitating greater support by France for financing them.

Likewise, France's aid should be valuable in the areas of phosphates (extraction of uranium from phosphates, phosphoric acid), oil exploration, exploitation of oil shale, new energies, etc.

As regards cultural and technical cooperation, France should take administrative and financial measures to encourage applicants for cooperation positions in Morocco and avoid the problem of the withdrawals and defections that occur every year, especially in the education sector.

For this purpose, it is necessary to go from the stage of substitution cooperation to that of training cooperation.

On the other hand, as regards consular and judicial relations, an urgent solution should be found to the problems deriving from application to Moroccan nationals of the July 1975 law on divorce and of the provisions relative to the competency of French jurisdictions in the matter of divorce by foreigners. Application of this law to our nationals would be prejudicial to them because it provides that only the French legislation is applicable in the matter of divorce even if both spouses are foreigners.

Finally, among all the subjects that will doubtlessly be examined by the intergovernmental commission is that of our emigrant workers in France, who should not only retain the advantages already acquired but also obtain others, such as voluntary return and automatic renewal of residence permits.

These are a few aspects of Moroccan-French cooperation and several of the problems that deserve to be solved. But in reality, the field of action of this cooperation is very vast, and the areas that it should touch are very varied. Because of this, and in view of the special relations that have always existed between Morocco and France, a particular effort should be made to tighten the bilateral bonds within the framework of mutually advantageous cooperation.

DETAILS OF MOROCCAN-BULGARIAN COOPERATION GIVEN

Casablanca MAROC SOIR in French 9 Oct 80 p 2

[Text] Rabat, 9 Oct (MAP)--The Moroccan-Bulgarian negotiation which began in Rabat on 2 October were ratified on Tuesday 7 October by the signing--at the Ministry of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation--of the record of the proceedings. The record will be submitted to the permanent intergovernmental committee that is scheduled to meet next November in Sofia.

These negotiations--which took place in a climate of friendship--dealt with relations in the areas of trade, industry, technology, mining and agriculture.

The two delegations reached a number of decisions designed to strengthen relations between the two countries in various sectors.

Several economic projects have been the object of talks between the experts of the two countries.

Other, more detailed, talks will be held in the coming months among experts of the two countries, especially in the industrial domain.

Various opportunities for cooperation in respect to mining have been studied.

The contacts between BULGARGEOMIN and the BRPM [Mineral Exploration and Investment Office] will be intensified. Bulgaria will grant technical assistance to Morocco in this specific sector.

In the agricultural sector Bulgarian participation could be carried out in many sectors, particularly in the areas of water resources and forests, agricultural research, stock raising, and hydroagricultural equipment.

During its visit the Bulgarian delegation was received by the secretary of state for cooperation at the Ministry of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, by the secretary general of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, and by the secretary general of the Ministry of Equipment and National Development.

10992

CSO: 4400

POLICE ROUGH UP OPPOSITION PARTY MEMBERS

Casablanca AL BAYANE in French 28 Oct 80 p 2

[Article: "Police 'Elements' in Plain Clothes Rough Up Certain Members of the Central Council of the JMPS (Moroccan Youth for Progress and Socialism)"]

[Text] The day before yesterday, Sunday 26 October 1980, at the end of the meeting held by the Central Council (CC) of the JMPS, comrades Mohamed Ansari, member of the CC and of the Casablanca Section Bureau, and Choukrat Mohamed, member of the CC and of the Azrou Section Bureau of the JMPS, as they were heading toward their respective destinations, were stopped by plain-clothes police elements who showed their identity cards! They took the two comrades by force to a small alley where they conducted an interrogation on the proceedings of the Central Council, on the names and responsibilities of certain members! Next they took by force certain documents and notes that were in the comrades' possession.

We can only raise the most energetic protest against these doings, which are anti-democratic and unfortunately recall the Oufkir era.

The JMPS is a legal organization, one that acts in broad daylight, a responsible and serious organization. We express our complete indignation at these doings and forcefully condemn them, and we ask the authorities concerned to put an end to them. These irresponsible actions, which violate the law and are an outrage against public freedoms, harm the democratic process and the image that our country is beginning to acquire in the concert of nations that enjoy a democratic system.

The JMPS will continue in its militant march in the service of the homeland, defending the supreme interests of our nation and the legitimate rights of all of our youth, confident of the support of this youth and of its solidarity.

Furthermore, comrade Ahmed Salem Latafi, first secretary of the JMPS, has sent the National Bureau's protests to the authorities concerned.

11267

CSO: 4400

JMPS CLOSES MEETING WITH GENERAL RESOLUTION

Casablanca AL BAYANE in French 31 Oct 80 p 6

[Article: "The General Resolution Adopted at the Conclusion of the Proceedings of the Central Council Reaffirms the Essential Political Positions of the JMPS (Moroccan Youth for Progress and Socialism) and the Specification of the Organizational Tasks"]

[Text] The Central Council of the Moroccan Youth for Progress and Socialism met in its seventh regular session on Sunday 26 October 1980 in Casablanca.

After listening to the report presented in the name of the National Bureau by comrade Ahmed Salem Latafi, first secretary, and discussing and approving it unanimously;

After the statements by the members of the Central Council had placed emphasis on analysis of the general situation of youth in the light of the country's political, economic and social climate, as well as the particular situation of the JMPS, in its actions, positions and struggles;

And after the Central Council had evaluated and discussed in depth the organizational situation of the JMPS in its positive aspects and its weaknesses, and after the indispensable decisions had been taken with a view to consolidation of the present achievements and with a view to generalization of the positive and creative experiences, the Central Council of the JMPS reaffirms:

1. On the Political Level:

1. International

The socialist world continues to grow stronger at all levels, economic, political and social, with youth playing a decisive role in it alongside the working class.

The international scene is also witnessing glorious victories achieved by the forces of progress and anti-imperialist struggle, supported by the victories of the peoples of Nicaragua in Latin America and of Zimbabwe in southern Africa and of other peoples in Asia.

On this occasion, the Central Council hails these victories and expresses solidarity with the peoples concerned.

Nevertheless, imperialism is trying to recover the bastions it has lost in recent years, by working toward domination of the peoples and their resources, especially in the Near East.

The Central Council, condemning the Camp David agreements once again and rejecting any defeatist solution, reaffirms its unconditional support for the fighting Palestinian people, under the leadership of the PLO, and it also makes common cause with the Lebanese people under the leadership of its national movement.

It also expresses its solidarity with the Bahraini students in the painful ordeal that they are presently enduring and calls for cessation of the repressive and arbitrary measures to which they are being subjected.

It also expresses its sadness and profoundly deplores the murderous war that has broken out between Iraq and Iran, two neighboring countries known for their anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist positions and their support for the Palestinian cause. It considers that this war gives imperialism pretexts for transforming the region into an arsenal, for threatening world peace, just as it enables the Zionists to accentuate their traitorous attacks against southern Lebanon in order to strike at the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese progressive forces. Continuance of this war can only help to split the Arab, anti-imperialist, anti-Zionist and antireactionary ranks further, which only profits the adversaries of the cause of liberation and progress of the peoples. Thus it calls on the two sides to stop the war immediately and to solve the problems between them by negotiation, by nonaggression and with mutual respect for national sovereignty.

2. National

The Central Council salutes our valiant (as published) for the victories it is winning on the battlefield against the enemies of our territorial integrity, and it also notes and congratulates it for the relative improvement noted at the level of international understanding of the cause of our territorial integrity.

Nevertheless, the economic and social crisis remains and grows worse. The timid measures adopted by the government in favor of the tenants were quickly emptied of their content when it raised the prices of basic items and of school supplies, which correspondingly downgrades the buying power of the broadest popular masses, which has profound repercussions on youth and children.

The policy of prices rises and wage freeze, of lockout and layoff of workers, of expulsion of lycée students, the refusal to grant lycée students the right to form benefit societies, as well as the attempts to undermine the resolutions of the Ifrane conference, in which the JHPS took part--such a policy leads only to aggravation of the crisis and to its corollaries: unemployment, waste of youth, and other well-known social evils.

Thus the Central Council calls for abandonment of this failed policy and the establishment of a new policy that meets the aspirations of our youth and of our people.

The CC, also condemning the racist practices of which our workers are the victims abroad, the most recent being the murder of a young Moroccan in Marseille, in France, reaffirms its total solidarity with the Moroccan emigres and calls for putting an end to this intolerable situation.

The Central Council, evaluating the political reality of the country, cannot help but express satisfaction at the return of a number of exiles to their native country.

With regard to the immediate problems of youth, the Central Council calls for giving every attention to the children and youth by greatly increasing the number of nurseries within the reach of all, by increasing considerably the budgets of the ministries of Youth & Sports and of National Education, and by immediate and total application of the recommendations of the Ifrance conference, without dissipating the work of its committees.

It is also indispensable to put into effect the law on the establishment of lycee students' benefit societies, to offer jobs to young people of working age, and to confirm irreversibly the achievements of widespread availability of scholarships and free education.

II. On the Organizational Level

The Central Council urges efforts to carry out the following tasks in the coming year.

1. In the Area of Organization

- seeing to better structuring of the sections;
- holding section conferences;
- seeing to the carrying-out of tasks on time, in conformity with the program established, combining boldness with realism;
- celebrating the fifth anniversary of the founding of the JHPS;
- organizing special days for the youth of Sebta and Melilla.

2. In the Area of Propaganda

- improving the work of information and propaganda;
- spreading information widely about all the actions of the Central Council and the sections;
- attending to the weekly "AL BAYANE for Young People" page in the two editions, Arabic and French;
- publishing an information bulletin;
- organizing conferences on various themes;
- publishing an information brochure on organization, publication of various materials.

3. In the Area of Training

- organizing two national seminars for cadres;
- organizing study days at the section level;
- examining the problem of extremist ideological tendencies among youth;
- making the international democratic youth movement known.

4. In the Area of the Pioneers

- institution of a National Council of Pioneers;
- conferences in the sections on the situation of children;
- unifying the styles of contact and relations with children and unifying the hymns and songs;
- organizing a seminar devoted to the Pioneers.

5. In the Area of External Relations

- ensuring better organization of external relations, correspondence, and the exchange of documents and information;
- ensuring better knowledge of the JMPS on the international level;
- receiving friendly and sister international delegations and exchanging visits.

6. In the Area of Young People's Travel and Tourism

- raising the level of the present experiences and improving them;
- consolidating the experience and traditions acquired, diversifying and multiplying them.

7. In the Area of Vacation Camps

After the organization expressed its satisfaction at having gone into the field of vacation camps for the first time, and with success, it considers necessary:

- the development of new and positive experience and the taking of measures to raise their level;
- taking the view that the problem requires constant attention, not only on account of the present situation but aimed at even higher effectiveness.

8. In the Financial Area

Paying even greater attention to this area than heretofore, the problem being of an organizational nature and responsibility for it being incumbent on all members.

11267
CSO: 4400

MOROCCAN CONCEPT OF JUDAISM VERSUS ZIONISM EXPLAINED

Casablanca MAROC SOIR in French 10 Oct 80 pp 1, 2

[Editorial by Ahmed Alaoui: "Judaism and Zionism"]

[Text] Some of our Jewish fellow countrymen believed--following the various conferences of the Islamic ministers of foreign affairs at Fes and Casablanca, the meetings of the Al Quds committee, and the adoption at these Muslim assemblies of resolutions concerning Palestinian problems in general and the problem of Al Quds in particular--that they detected a change in Morocco's attitude toward Judaism.

Nothing of the sort has occurred.

Moroccan policy with regard to Judaism is constant. One part of Jewish culture is of Moroccan origin, and the Jews of Morocco are intermingled with the very history of our country. There has been a Jewish population in Morocco since ancient times, speaking Berber or Arabic, completely integrated, and differing from their fellow countrymen in one respect only: religion. Morocco has in fact always practiced tolerance and regarded Judaism as a revealed religion in the same category as Christianity.

It is a source of pride for Islam that it is the only one of the revealed religions to accept the other two, even though they for their part do not accept Islam. At the political level the Jews have always been regarded as full-fledged Moroccans. We would like to recall to mind the noble and courageous attitude of His Majesty Mohammed V, who during World War II refused to put into effect the anti-Jewish laws of the Vichy government. In independent Morocco the Jews enjoy the same rights and the same freedoms as their Muslim fellow countrymen. Morocco is one of the few Arab countries where the Jews have the right to vote and to be elected to public office. Need we point out that at the time Morocco attained its independence one of the ministers of the government was a Jew, Dr Bennaquen--and that a number of Jews were elected at the recent municipal councils?

Judaism and the Hebraic culture are a part of our national heritage and Morocco intends to preserve them, because it reveres tolerance and those values which are universal.

Judaism and Zionism are, however, two completely different things. We have always made the distinction between the two, ever since 1919. Moulay Youssef was, in fact, the first Arab and Muslim chief of state to protest against Balfour, and

Morocco steadfastly maintained that position up to the day Palestine was partitioned and maintains it to this very day. Morocco has steadfastly supported the Palestinian people. Following the 1947 partition His Majesty Mohammed V (may God have mercy on his soul) officially protested that decision, and while denouncing Zionism assured the Moroccan Jews of his solicitude and his protection for them in their capacity as Moroccan citizens: he denounced Zionism but condemned anti-Semitism.

This is likewise the policy of His Majesty Hassan II.

Zionism is in effect nothing more than a form of imperialism, colonialism and even racism and has nothing in common with Judaism, which is a religion worthy of respect.

Zionism was created for the purpose of conquering Palestine and dispossessing the Arabs of the lands they had held for thousands of years, in order to settle emigres there. It was therefore nothing other than a colonial enterprise. We have, moreover, seen the Zionists practice a policy of totalitarian racism and repression in the occupied Arab territories.

Morocco has rejected the amalgamation of Zionism with Judaism--something which the Zionists themselves desire so as to create a feeling of insecurity and uneasiness among the Jews in the Muslim countries (such as Morocco) and thereby induce them to emigrate, for Israel wants to "import" all the Jews throughout the world. It is this amalgamation that must be exposed, in order to avoid falling into the trap that lurks behind it.

Our policy in this regard is clear cut. Some eminent Jews are anti-Zionist, for they regard this movement as a fascist undertaking.

We may also point out that 44 percent of the Jews in Israel have declared themselves opposed to the annexation of Al Qods.

Be that as it may, religion must not be confused with political ideology; and many leading figures throughout the world who regard the Jews as full-fledged citizens in their respective countries are equally strong in their condemnation of Zionism.

Morocco has made a substantial contribution to this evolution and to this differentiation. It also conceived the Rabat Charter (adopted by the Arab summit conference in 1974), which set forth the conditions for peace and in fact accepted the existence of Israel within the latter's pre-1967 borders.

This major development is attributable to the realism of His Majesty Hassan II and to his personal action. We have already emphasized that in the view of Morocco and His Majesty Hassan II the Palestine problem was a sacred problem, not a diversionary device. This was apparent again when during his press conference at Ifrane His Majesty the King made a fresh contribution to settlement of the Israeli-Arab war by calling for dual recognition, with Israel recognizing the PLO and the right of the Palestinian people to have a fatherland and form a state, and the PLO for its part recognizing Israel.

All this proves that Morocco's policy is a constant one. Morocco is giving its total support to the cause of the Palestinian people and to their just struggle. While it denounces Zionism it also denounces anti-Semitism just as vigorously, and following the attack on Copernic Street His Majesty the King instructed his ambassador to convey to the representatives of the Moroccan Jewish associations in France Morocco's indignation at this attack--which it condemns--and its commiseration for the victims. Here are the words of our ambassador:

"I ask that you be so kind as to express for me, and for all Moroccans, our deep feelings and our indignation at this atrocity committed against our fellow countrymen of the Jewish faith and against the entire Jewish community of France."

For--and we repeat emphatically--although Morocco regards Zionism as a reprehensible ideology it feels the greatest respect for Judaism as a revealed religion.

10992

CSO: 4400

SAUDI ECONOMIC PLANNING REVIEWED

Riyadh AL-YAMANA in Arabic 3 Oct 80 pp 10-12

[Article: "New Saudi Strategy Benefits Gulf and Friendly States"]

[Text] Announcement of the third Five-Year Plan in Saudi Arabia (totaling 782 billion riyals, or 221 billion dollars) was expected last May. However, it was postponed because of reconsideration of its cost. One of the reasons for the delay was the current tension in some areas of the world, which led to reconsideration of the defense budget after the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

Evaluation of this plan indicates important points which will control the domestic economy over the next 5 years:

Economic Cooperation

The basic goal of the second Five-Year Plan (1975-1980) was the creation of a modern national economy. Eighty percent of available capital was allocated for basic development and the creation of water, electrical and effective communications systems. This plan achieved most of its aim. The clear difference in the new plan is more comprehensive development in the political, military and economic fields.

Also, development aid to the states of the Third World is no longer given as it was 10 years ago, and offering aid to the African and Asian states has now become part of a strategy. Aid is now given in an orderly way to build up these states economically so that they can supply Saudi Arabia with cheap consumer commodities and labor, and also to strengthen these states militarily to prevent aggression in the region, since all of these elements have been taken into consideration in the new plan.

Most of the projects are ambitious for the Arabian Peninsula. This appeared in programs of economic cooperation between Saudi Arabia and the states of the Gulf.

The roots of this cooperation go back to the Riyadh Conference of 1979, which brought together the ministers of planning from seven Gulf states to establish the basis of complete economic unity.

The first goals of this plan were to organize industrial projects, help to export non-petroleum products, and keep domestic markets from being flooded with goods.

There was also a project to organize sources of labor. All of these goals were coordinated with the new Five-Year Plan. For example:

A credit of 2.3 billion riyals (696 million dollars) was set aside to encourage joint projects and to train labor.

Both Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have drawn up plans for 20 joint projects costing about 2.5 billion dollars.

Saudi Arabia has abandoned its project to build an aluminum plant in "Jubayl" in the interest of the existing aluminum plant in Bahrain, of which it owns 20 percent of the shares.

The joint petrochemical industry of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain will be modernized to produce methanol and ammonia with an investment of 40 million dollars.

The private sector will be encouraged to establish joint projects and invest in other Arab Gulf states.

A plant for lubricating oils in North Yemen (which is connected with the Mobil Company and the Petromin Company in Saudi Arabia) will be linked with a similar plant in Jiddah.

It is likely that the Arab Organization for Industrialization (the joint Arab attempt to establish military industry in Egypt which has been "shelved" since Camp David) will be re-established in Saudi Arabia with Gulf partners and labor from Pakistan.

Industrialization

In the previous plan, the sum of 25 billion dollars was spent to build 900 factories, most of them for manufacture and assembly. In the future Saudi Arabia will concentrate on establishing energy-based industries to make the most effective use of its petroleum resources.

Saudi economic aid also is aimed at neighboring states to create industries requiring large numbers of workers in these states.

As to estimates of expenditures and industrial production in the future, one can consider the development which occurred in the two new industrial cities of "Jubayl" and "Yanbu'" as similar to the exploration of Siberia or the clearing of the Amazon jungle.

The industries relying on natural hydrocarbons will form the basis for these two cities, but they will produce other nonpetrochemical items. As for the planned light industrial zones, they will produce everything from construction material to umbrellas and soap.

A large part of the new plan has been set aside for these two cities.

The new industries will be technologically advanced, to the extent that in 20 years "Yanbu" will have a population of no more than 150,000 and "Jubayl" no more than 380,000.

At present there are between 10,000 and 12,000 workers in each of the two cities.

However, when the basic industries go into production the small industries will begin to grow, relying on cheap energy and readily available chemical raw materials.

In view of the great number of export operations which will occur, both "Yanbu" and "Jubayl" have begun to build modern port facilities.

Agriculture

Much attention has been given to agriculture, earmarking credits for projects in electricity, municipalities, housing and education to develop remote rural areas to prevent emigration to the cities and consequently to increase production of food.

Between 1970 and 1980 the sum of 1 billion riyals (303 million dollars) was spent on price supports for imported food supplies. What concerns Saudi Arabia is the shortage of food produced locally, not the cost of importing, since self-sufficiency in grain is the first and foremost goal.

However, this requires more than ample capital, because the agricultural structure is still in its infancy.

Education

Credits allocated for social services will be increased with the intent of expanding educational and health services to include remote areas of the desert. The sum of 23.9 billion riyals (7.2 billion dollars) has been set aside for women's education with the goal of ensuring adequate education through the university level so that women are not forced to go abroad for higher education.

Labor

The oppressive problem which controls every article of the third plan is the issue of labor. The strategy of the plan announces confidently a policy to develop labor in a positive manner, taking into consideration that the strategy of the third plan is aimed at reducing the number of foreign workers.

Unofficial estimates say that the economy relies on about 2 million yemenis and a similar number of other foreigners.

The new plan is intended to reduce the number of foreigners to 55 percent of the total number of workers. Also, huge and costly steps have been taken to educate and train national cadres to participate in making use of modern technology, but the number of withdrawals has been very high.

The joint Saudi-American economic committee set up 18 centers to train managers and skilled workers.

The second plan was aimed at increasing the number of native technicians.

Summary of Principles of the Third Five-Year Plan (1980-85):

Preserving Islamic values and applying and spreading Islamic law.

Supporting religious and national devotion and internal security.

Following up development by increasing economic resources and oil income and preserving natural resources.

Reducing dependence on oil exports as a basic source of national wealth.

Developing labor by education, training and higher public health levels.

Establishing the necessary bases for reaching the general goals.

7587

CSO: 4802

WORK ON EAST-WEST PIPELINE TO BE COMPLETED BY 1 JULY 1981

Jiddah ARAB NEWS in English 16 Nov 80 p 3

[Text]

JEDDAH, Nov. 15 (SPA) — Work on the east-west crude oil pipeline, Petroline, will be completed by July 1, 1981, officials said Saturday.

Petroline will link the Red Sea port of Yanbu with the oil fields in the Eastern Province. The pipeline will cost SR1.64 billion and extends to a length of 1,200 kilometers.

The 48-inch diameter pipeline will pump 1.6 million barrels daily. The pipeline will link the oil field at Al-Gaswar in the Eastern Province with the export plant at the Red Sea coast and will have 11 pumping stations strung throughout its length. In addition, three maintenance centers will be constructed in strategic locations.

The coastal complex at Yanbu and the shipping facilities at the western end of Petroline represent a vital factor in developing the Red Sea port city of Yanbu, which has been chosen to be the industrial center of the Kingdom's western coast.

Petroline has been about five years in the making. Construction started in 1978. In addition, Petroline can be termed a success even before the oil starts flowing. Regarding management, training, government relations and contract administration, Petroline is living proof of Saudi Arabia's ability to handle the tough jobs that once were the exclusive province of the multinational oil companies.

Unlike other petroleum engineering works in Saudi Arabia, Petroline represents a uniquely national effort. The pipeline will be

owned solely by the government. It involves high-level responsibilities ranging from the Kingdom's industrialization program to national security.

As with other large projects in the Kingdom, Petroline has major foreign firms working for it in the management and design of the east-west crude oil pipeline. Brown and Root of Houston and Mobil Overseas Pipeline of Dallas have been involved in Petroline from the beginning. But each company's contract specified both the involvement and training of Saudi specialists from the blueprint stage through completion, and all of the work is coordinated through Petroline's offices in Houston and Jeddah.

Petroline will be joined by a cross-country natural gas liquids (NGL) pipeline that will feed an NGL fractionation plant at Yanbu. Though Aramco will manage construction and operation of the NGL line and plant, other projects will be owned totally by the government and will be coordinated by Petroline.

The crude oil terminal at the Yanbu industrial complex will feed tankers bound for Europe and the United States with an average of 1.6 million bpd of high quality crudes. It will trim 3,000 to 5,000 kilometers off tanker routes that would otherwise have to round the Arabian Peninsula.

Eleven one-million-barrel storage tanks are now under construction at the Yanbu industrial complex.

THIRD WORLD PRESS SAID TO BE FAILING IN ITS DUTY

Tunis LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE in French 21 Oct 80 p 5

[Column by Dr Bourjini Salah: "Information and the new International Economic Order"]

[Text] The extraordinary session of the UN on international economic cooperation has just finished its labors with the adoption of a few resolutions on the forthcoming world-wide negotiations and a project for international strategy for the third decade of development. Since the Third-World press, still unaware of its role, has related the event only in a marginal way, the western mass media almost ignored the holding of that session, paying all their attention to the OPDC meeting and the eventual increase in energy prices. Once again international public opinion was scoffed at by a press which was either unconscious of its duties or unscrupulous in unveiling certain truths regarding the precarious situation of the world economy, the coming apart of the Bretton Woods system and its unfortunate repercussions on the development of the Third-World countries.

A. The need to recognize the seriousness of the present crisis.

For more than one alerted observer, the years of 1980 and 1981 are considered as pivotal years in international relations before debouching on the institution of new forms of cooperation between North and South.

The rate of deceleration of the average growth rate of a large number of developing countries and the movement of impoverishing several regions in the world are running the risk of producing a tragedy and in the long run a general confrontation if no serious action is taken by the great economic powers.

Humanity has never faced such a grave crisis, characterized by galloping inflation and chronic unemployment, complicated by the specter of an energy shortage and by uncertainty both on the monetary level and on the trade level.

Faced with this alarming situation the western mass media continue to show no interest except in a few particular aspects of the crisis, such as the problem of unemployment in the industrial countries and its unfortunate repercussions on the well-being of the wealthy countries, as they pretend to ignore the impact of that crisis on the development of the Third World. The silence of those mass media and their indifference with regard to the problems of the Third World confirm the idea that they are still the greatest defenders of an economic system based on exploitation and domination.

It is for that reason that the developing countries would gain a great deal if they speeded up the putting into place of the structures of the new information order that has been advocated, among others, to serve and to help in the beginning of a new economic order, equitable and fair.

In fact, no one must have any illusions about immediate results to be expected from the North-South dialogue as long as public opinion in the industrialized countries remains on the margin of events or even worse, remains hostile to any change.

Is it not time to realize that information is an important power which the developing countries should use to support their claims? The countries of the Third World, following the example of the developed countries, should learn to use that formidable weapon in order to apply a constant pressure on their partners whose intransigent positions often rest on a public opinion that is unaware of the realities, on parliaments or on institutions uninformed with regard to the truth which additionally is often deformed for the needs of the cause.

B. The state of current information and the New International Economic Order [NOEI]

Everyone agrees that information could play a capital role in the promotion of the concept of an NOEI in the world in general and in the industrialized countries in particular.

However, if we examine the reasons why the beginning of an NOEI has not found the necessary support in the industrialized countries but rather an indifference and even rejection, we find that those reasons are varied.

There are in the first place some partisans of the current order who want to maintain it and perpetuate it no matter what it may cost because its reform would mean the disappearance of the privileges and interests that they get from it. In other words, a majority of those within the industrialized countries do not share the economic interest of those who are asking for a change. However, if that majority has not always taken a favorable position, it is also possible that it may have not had objective information, which would permit it to observe the bonds of interdependence which today exist among all economies.¹

In fact, a well-informed public opinion could help to develop the necessary political will permitting governments to participate in the establishment of a new and more viable economic system. However, it cannot be forgotten either that the great international press agencies are first of all multinational enterprises with headquarters in the great centers of economic power.

They are consequently engaged in a policy of defending the status quo, based on the perpetuation of the dependence of the Third-World peoples.

Furthermore, the editors and owners of the Western press organs have always behaved like merchants and industrialists by opposing any idea which goes contrary to the interests of their group, and that is what explains their attempts to frighten public opinion and to make it apathetic toward the claims of the developing countries.

Also, the current economic crisis has not been perceived except through the increase in petroleum prices and the reaction of the public facing the demands for

reforming the international economic system in that case could only be negative.

That is the reason why the developing countries must devote all their interest to the role of information and to the responsibility of the mass media in the establishment and popularization of the New International Economic Order.

That rule is incumbent in the first place on the information media of the countries of the Third World which should among other things:

Inform themselves directly and very seriously about the negotiations going on between developing countries and industrialized countries and the achieved results.

To inform the public on the bases of those negotiations, about their content and their development, while supplying the most accurate information possible at the same time that they inform the public on the problems which have really been presented.

--To anticipate the nature of public reactions and their influence on political power.

Being given the situation of interdependence, news is still a collective right of society as a whole, in the sense that the countries of the Third World should define their demands with regard to the international information agencies represented in their countries since the same disorder which exists in the systems of international economic relations exists in the information system.²

It is a question of making the aspirations, the ideas and programs of the Third World accessible to the public opinion of the industrialized countries, while avoiding the problems of semantics.³

The popularization of that concept should be made beginning with a clear understanding of the content of the new economic order and an awareness of the notion of interdependence of the problems while serving the common interests of all humanity.

For that, it is necessary to emphasize the great responsibility of those who are in charge of transmitting the truths to public opinion.

It is necessary to recognize that the countries of the Third World have today also succeeded in translating into very concrete terms the nature of their claims and the reforms that they propose to apply to the present system. The documents drawn up by the countries of the Third World contain all the elements of information which are necessary on this subject.

Communication is a problem of a structural nature which cannot be considered as a separate and independent phenomenon from its economic, cultural and social content. It is one of the principal instruments of public political and economic power which those who enjoy that institution use.

The present verbal structure of the press and of information in the world where everything is organized around one center which has relations with the periphery

in no way reflect the reality of our days.⁴

There is a direct relation between information, the public knowledge, political behavior and the transformation of the structures.

The international press agencies are national agencies which have formed combined international structures or a vertical system of information in the interest of perpetuating the ideas and interests of the directing classes and the preservation of the existing order.

That is why it is necessary to undertake some radical reforms in the social communication systems and create a constant and multi-directional flux as a long term goal.

Only the creation of regional and international agencies by the Third World and the establishment of a system of exchange and information from South to South could ensure an adequate news service to be supplied to public opinion in the industrialized countries. This opinion should be persuaded that the NOEI takes its interests into consideration.

None of that can see the light of day unless we begin with a reorganization of the information system in the countries of the Third World. Whatever its nature, it is of very great importance for the press to understand that the objective of the great debates going on now about cooperation between North and South will have a decisive influence both on the peace and on the world which we shall bequeath to our children.⁵

FOOTNOTES

1. International Center for Development--Mass media and North-South economic relations. Nice, France. October, 1975.
2. See the report on the United Nations Conference "Western Public Opinion and the New International Economic Order," Tunis, October 1977.
3. S. Amin: After Nairobi, Preparing the non-aligned summit in Colombo--an Appraisal of UNCTAD IV, IDEP/DIR 2747 June 1976.
4. S. Amin, A. Farhi, N. Hussein, the Crisis of Imperialism. Ed. de Minuit, Paris, 1976.
5. See the speech by Mr W. Brandt, given at the Castle of Gynnich (FRG) on 9 December 1977, on the occasion of the first meeting of the independent commission for international development.

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PRIME MINISTER MAALI INTERVIEWED BY 'ESSAYED'

Tunis LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE in French 19 Oct 80 p 4

[Interview granted by Prime Minister Mohamed Maali by Salama Abderrahmane of the newspaper ESSAYED. Time and place of interview not given]

[Text] The newspaper ESSAYED published an interview in its last number which Mr Mohamed Maali, the prime minister, had given to its special reporter Salama Abderrahmane. We read there especially:

[Question] Since you have been named prime minister and secretary general of the party, eyes have been focused on Tunisia in the framework of questions about the possibilities of changing the domestic and foreign policies of Tunisia. What is your reply to those questions?

[Answer] Tunisia's policy is based on the coherent whole of a number of constant values and principles whose essential goal is to permit man to assume his destiny as a responsible citizen conscious of his duties and rights, all of this within the framework of a policy whose objective is to bring together all conditions which may be able to assure the general promotion of the Tunisian man and his access to progress and prosperity. These values and principles on which Tunisian policy rests are all inspired by the thought of President Bourguiba and his general conception of the state, of society, and of public affairs. As for the questions on possibilities of changing the domestic and foreign policies of Tunisia, I would say in reply that our action will depend on deepening and consolidating the essence of the route that we have followed for a number of years by working for the correction of the weak points which might show themselves and in looking for adequate solutions, within the framework of a dialogue and respect for the other parties, to the problems which present themselves.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, can you define for us with more precision the broad lines of Tunisia's current policies on the domestic and foreign levels and your view of its political future and on what might characterize that policy with relation to the preceding period?

[Answer] As I have said in my reply to the first question, our activity during the present period will be principally devoted to the consolidation of the gains made by Tunisia since independence and to enriching our political experience and our development. I could declare that the great lines of Tunisian policy on the domestic level consist of healing the political and social climate by setting up

rules for a responsible dialogue and an association of all social forces in the discussion of whatever may be of interest to the affairs of the country, all the more so since we are beginning a new decade of development and we are in the process of preparing the sixth development plan. Our policy in this domain tends toward an evaluation of what has been carried out in order to identify the weak points and the strong points and to define our development of objectives as a consequence. At the same time we wish to take into account the demands of the present stage and of the new needs created above all among the young people by the social and cultural progress which the country has accomplished. The goal of all those activities is to achieve a dynamic equilibrium among the different factors making up Tunisian society on all the economic, social, political and cultural levels.

On the foreign level, our policy aims at the development of relations of brotherhood and solidarity with the brother countries and an improvement of the climate among those countries. It also tends to establish more balanced and more equitable relations between the industrial countries and the developing countries. In brief, those are the principal axes on which Tunisia's policy rests on both the domestic and foreign levels.

Party Assuming Its Role

[Question] What is the mission of the party and that of the government during the present stage and to what degree does the party guide the general policy of the country?

[Answer] In order to understand the real role that the Destourian Socialist Party is assuming in the life of the Tunisian people, it must not be conceived by means of the classic definitions of political parties. The Destourian Socialist Party is neither a class party nor a group of interests. It is a party which has acquired its legitimacy as a result of a long and bitter struggle in which it has been the principal mover of the popular forces for the conquest of liberty and progress. It is also a movement open to good will and to everyone who, animated by sincere intentions, wishes to work on behalf of the general interest and for the promotion of their nation. The PSD [Destourian Socialist Party] includes workers, farmers, tradespeople, intellectuals, united around a coherent core of values and common principles of action. Strengthened by that broad base, the PSD plays an essential role in the life of the country. It is still, in fact, as it has been during the national struggle for liberation, the mover and the impulsive force of the developmental effort of the nation. It is furthermore a group for reflection and action where different concepts of the country's future meet each other and from that meeting at the end there comes forth an overall concept of the diverse dimensions of the life lived by Tunisian citizens. Alongside that primary role, which is a role of reflection, of conceiving and of creating, the party animates political life, mobilizes energies in the service of objectives of development. Thus it assumes an active role in the development of the country since it arouses enthusiasm, encourages a spirit of work and of self-sacrifice among the citizens and especially among the young people, and it is obvious that the party is assuming that role in a climate of dialogue, of bringing together, and of respect for the decision of the responsible majority.

[Question] Taking into account all of the data, how do you act with respect to

what is called the opposition, the Movement of Democratic Socialists and Popular Unity, for example?

[Answer] What you call opposition and chiefly the tendencies that you have just cited are in reality made up of elements which struggled within the party and there they assumed political responsibilities--at a certain moment they found themselves in conflict with the majority. Their attitude was then to constitute themselves in political currents advocating different ideas. The overwhelming majority of the Tunisian people is attached to President Bourguiba. However, the party remains open to all of those who respect the fundamental rules of political action within any organization, and above all the pledge to respect the majority decision. The party is open. It also works with the aim of being the unifier of all categories of the Tunisian people within the framework of solidarity and common action for the good of the general interest.

Reforming Thoughts, Actions

[Question] The transfer of the headquarters of the League of Arab States to Tunis has given Tunisia a new role and a heavy responsibility on the Arab level. Mr Prime Minister, what is the effective strategy of Tunisia for reinforcing the League of Arab States and for assuring its effective engagement on the Arab and international levels?

[Answer] The choice of our country to host the headquarters of the League of Arab States is an honor which reflects on all Tunisians. We are sparing no effort as the host country to assure to the League all the conditions for permitting to fulfill its determining and effective role for the profit of the causes of the Arab nation. Tunisia, as a member of the League of Arab States, has always acted for the improvement of the political climate among the Arab brothers and has insisted on the need of transcending marginal considerations and problems in such a way as to put us into a position to resolve our problems and to assume our presence on the international scene as a group which has its ambitions with regard to civilization and its desire to contribute to the progress of humanity.

All those considerations place heavy responsibilities on us, not only on the political level since it has been asked of us to turn back the challenge of Zionism and colonialism, but also on the civilizing level since we must reform our ways of talking and of acting with the goal of assuring a take-off and progress to our peoples.

Tunisia sees its role in the framework of the Arab family under that overall point of view and it is working to give to its role a character of efficiency and of effectiveness.

Reinforcing Palestinian Resistance

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, the question of the Middle East is still at an impasse and the situation within the occupied Arab territories is getting worse day by day. What is your attitude, first in regard to this question, and second with regard to the present situation inside the occupied territories and what is your concept of the appropriate solutions for that question?

[Answer] The situation in the Middle East which is getting more serious and worsening is essentially due to the intransigence of Israel and to its ignorance of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, in spite of the general reprobation of world public opinion for the policies of the Zionist State.

That attitude takes a number of forms, among which we observe attempts to eliminate the Palestinian resistance, aggression against Arab countries and the occupation of their territories and attempts to liquidate the Lebanese state by means of characteristic military attacks and by dividing it into pieces.

The Arab attitude toward that bare-faced Zionist challenge should be an attitude of solidarity in the sense that the Arab states should reinforce Palestinian resistance by using all their means to guarantee to it effective conditions for action. The Arab states must also follow a common strategy on the international political level. The Arab World, thanks to the action undertaken with regard to world public opinion, has been able to win a growing support for the Palestinian cause in the media and in the countries which were not so long ago the strongest allies of Israel and the defenders of Zionist positions.

European-Arab Dialogue

[Question] One last question if you will permit it, Mr Prime Minister. What is the role of Tunisia in the Arab-African dialogue and the European-Arab dialogue?

[Answer] The relationships of Europe with the countries of the African continent and with the Arab World were characterized in the past by imbalance and injustice. That was caused essentially by the nature of those relationships in the times of colonialism.

Today, however, facts have changed completely. It is that on the day following the accession of the African and Arab states to independence, there was a certain awareness and a new conception of what relations between nations should be in a sense of a greater equity and a better balance. From that point of view, the necessity was evoked of beginning a dialogue between Europe, Africa and the Arab World and in fact certain gains were able to be made in that domain. As far as we Tunisians are concerned, we face the problem on a double level.

First, as far as the work of development is concerned, we think that such a dialogue and the cooperation which will result from it will have the most fortunate effects on the acceleration of the process of economic development of the Arab and African countries, thanks to the exchanges of experience and to the training of African and Arab cadres through the utilization of modern scientific and technological methods and procedures.

Second, and on the level of "civilization" we are not putting any brakes on that dialogue on the economic or scientific side since we hope to go beyond that aspect of the problem and come out with an overall "civilizational" approach embracing all the aspects of the lives of the peoples with their cultural, social and political dimension. It is thus that in a dialectic zeal that dialogue will be able to go beyond the state of simple relationships of the producer-consumer type to become constructive and creative. It is at that price that the Arab and African

peoples will lift themselves to the place which is returning to them in the concert of nations.

Such is the role which Tunisia is in the process of playing in the European-Arab and European-African dialogue. Moreover, we are struggling for the setting up of a triangular dialogue among those political and cultural communities which can very well be completed.

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FUTURE OF TRADE UNIONISM DISCUSSED

Tunis DIALOGUE in French 20 Oct 1980 pp 21-22

[Editorial by Hammadi Ben Hamed: Future Trade Unionism]

[Text] Trade unionism strictly for demands. Should it exist?

There is no doubt about it, if the worker has been abandoned to his fate, submitted to an oppressive socio-economic system. Unionism strictly for demands, in that kind of situation, also crosses the Rubicon to turn the flank of revolutionism of anarcho-syndicalism and of all kinds of excesses and adventures.

History is edifying on that subject.

Toward the middle of the 19th century, in Europe, the lamentable conditions in which the workers lived--conditions of maximum exploitation of human labor by capitalism--forced unionism to erect the demand, the aggressive demand, into a system, although at its origin that unionism had as its ambition only to claim for the laboring world the right of using the principle of negotiation with the management with an intention of putting a brake, for example, on the lowering of wages and to insure the right to work.

Hence, the proliferation of the maximalist theories which in the wake of a Marx, of an Engels or of a Bakunin advocated substituting the dictatorship of the proletariat for the tyranny of capitalists.

The proposition that an exploited man is very naturally attracted by "the magic of extremes," the dictatorship of the proletariat in his eyes constituting the perfect way of disalienating the worker and of insuring social equality. The trade union, a cell of professional negotiation, becoming in that way a necessarily political machine whose objective is the overthrow by any means of a regime which is "unjust by nature and by destination."

Bourguiba analyzed that phenomenon in a masterly way in the speech that he gave on 31 July 1965 at the Labor Exchange, on the occasion of the 10th Congress of the UGTT [Tunisian General Federation of Labor], of which we published a few extracts last week.

He was to specify that the role of trade unionism under an unjust regime is to "overthrow the regime by opposing force with force and by bringing about the collapse of the entire edifice by sabotaging its interior," all the more so since the doctrine of the class struggle "is based on the existence of opposing interests and on the tendency of every social group to ensure for itself the greatest amount of profit." It is not true, however, Bourguiba declared, that "as the theorists of revolutionary trade unionism, Bakunin, Pelloutier and their disciples believed, that only the worker creates wealth, while the head of the enterprise is just a parasite who lives on the sweat of the worker. That is a concept which does not lend itself to analysis. Without the engineer, the director, the administrator and the machine (capital), the worker, reduced to no more than the strength of his arms, cannot do a great deal. Production results from a collective effort in which multiple elements participate: one brings the strength of his arms, the other his science and his technology, the third contributes to it with his research effort and his invention. The real social problem is a problem of dividing the products resulting from that collective labor among all the social categories which have contributed to its production...."

"It is therefore essential that all of those who participate in production act together harmoniously for the purpose of fomenting an increase in production and stimulating the activity of all the parties involved. Progress and prosperity are achieved at that price. Only that way permits us to create new wealth which can bring us out of under-development and open the door for us to dignity and freedom.

"If Tunisia has succeeded in defining an original method by basing itself on a community of spirit and of actions between the working class and the other social categories which contribute to the economic and social advancement of the country, it is necessary to see in that a product of history, the result of a cooperation based on a reciprocal confidence of almost half a century...."

That is to say that it is manifestly possible for a trade unionism other than revolutionary trade unionism or even the trade unionism strictly devoted to demands, can exist.

It is exactly that which Bourguiba chose to explain with all clarity in his 1965 speech. Trade unionism leads unavoidably to excess and to intolerance if society reduces the worker to a thing, if it does not offer him in his work anything more than a closed and anonymous universe. A universe of exploitation. And that has never been the case in Tunisia. Bourguiba has always had present in his mind the trials endured all over the world by the laboring masses. His struggle, since the 30's, has been to liberate them, to give them back their status as persons, to confer upon them a dignity, to reserve for them the interest that comes back to them from national wealth, an outcome which was perfectly conciliated--once that national independence was achieved--with the existence of a trade unionism whose objective was to be directly interested and consulted with regard to the macro-economic and micro-economic progress of the country. It was therefore that Bourguiba, strengthened by that certainty, was able to call on the UGTT, as of his return from exile in June 1955, for an active participation for the purpose of realizing that magnificent aspiration which is a promotion of Tunisian man.

Active participation.

In a socio-economic system which believes in association, in the complementarity of interests of all the citizens in any social category to which they may belong and which rejects the ideology of the class struggle, trade unionism cannot be conceived otherwise than as part of this participation. Participation is the exclusion of all resort to force between capital and labor, it is the introduction of understanding, of dialogue, of confidence and of a spirit of solidarity in the machinery of active life.

Tunisia is not the Europe of the middle of the 19th century.

There is no need for boycotting or sabotage, of general strikes or of savage strikes so that the workers may obtain satisfaction. A blind social agitation is untimely in a situation where the primacy of man is a sacrosanct dogma, it puts in danger the common interest and deserts the objectives which a rational and responsible trade unionism wishes to achieve. That is all the more true since participation, exactly, permits formulating demands by the one side and by the other side, making them prevail by means of procedures of consultation, of discussion, of negotiation and of finally becoming agreements which are compromises between the demands and the possibilities. In other terms participation is the best means of reducing social tensions--in short there should exist in any rapidly changing country--in what it offers to the employees and to the employers and to their respective unions, the possibility of resolving by dialogue and compromise a number of problems involving the organization and the management of labor, concerning problems of personnel, like those that relate to the job environment, to training, to information, etc.

In any event, there is a debate which the National Trade Unions Commission, newly set up, as a preliminary to preparing the next UGTT congress, has certainly been led to study in order to permit Tunisian trade unionism to continue going forward, considering itself, as Mohamed Mzali noted in his interview with the newspaper LE MONDE last 10 July, both the workers' defender and the party responsible for the realization of a new society, in other words, one which will consolidate the immediate imperatives and the conditions for bringing about a better future."

And besides, isn't that the path for a future trade unionism? Trade unionism of participation and of social peace.

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